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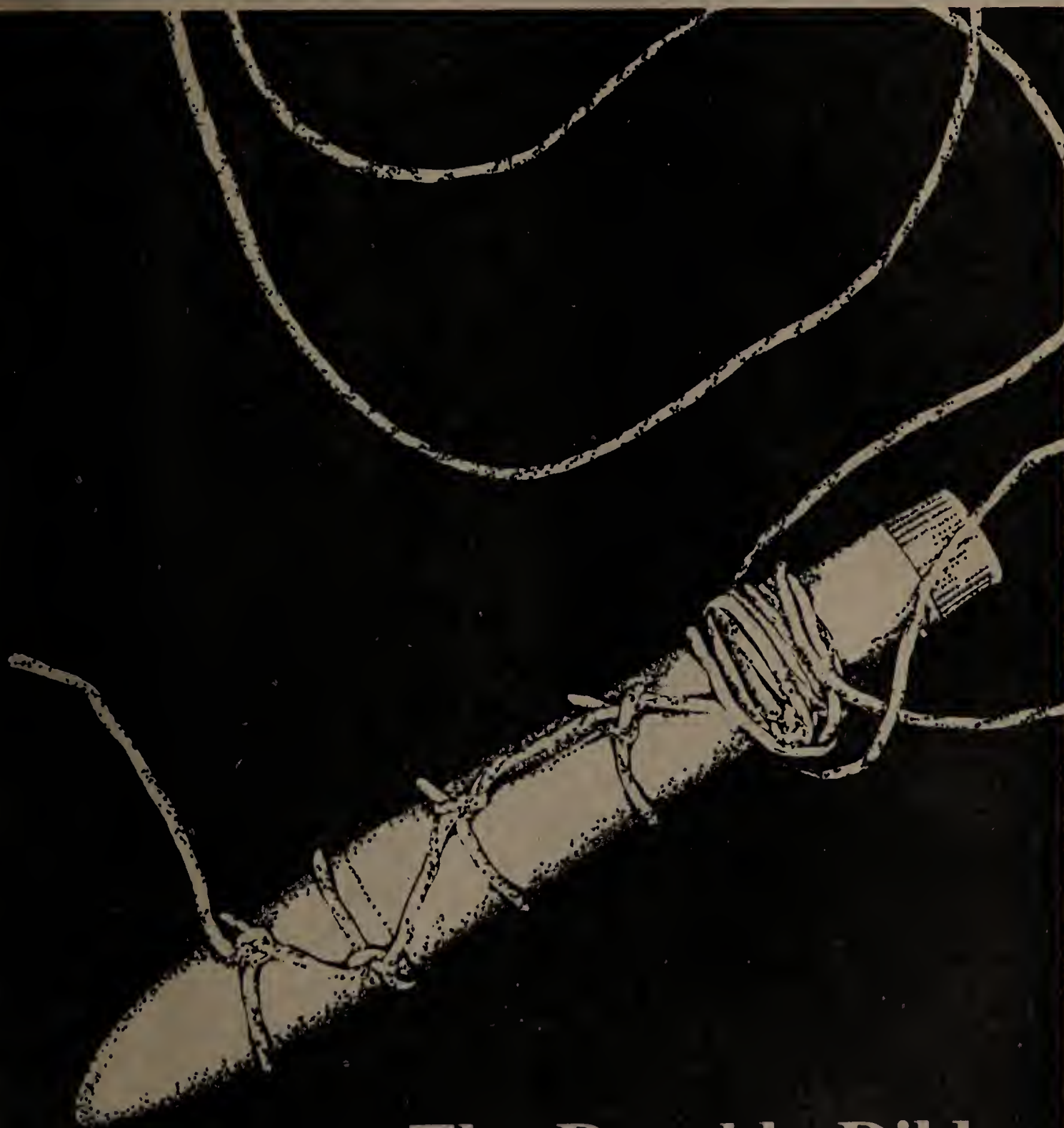
April 1, 1983

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# Gyn/Communist News

THE ANNUAL FOR LESBIANS AND THEIR FRIENDS

BISEX: 696969



## The Durable Dildo





# Gyn/Communist News

Vol. 1, No. 1

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April 1, 1983

## Historic Compromise Right-to-Life Amendment Passed, Age of Consent Lowered

By Dr. Jane Pshaw

WASHINGTON, D.C. — In a unique political compromise described by observers as a vital new breakthrough in the legislative process, liberals and conservatives in Congress today joined hands (that's *just* a metaphor) and unanimously passed a bill lowering the age of consent to the moment of conception.

"Here we were, ready to go home for our six-week Easter recess," explained Representative Bertram Filibuster (R-Oklaohonia). "Those bleeding-heart liberals would have debated to Doomsday — er, the Apocalypse — to block our Blessed Human Life Amendment. So in the true spirit of the Free Enterprise System which makes Our Country great, we offered to strike a deal. We'd pass their bill to reduce the age of consent to six months if they'd pass our amendment."

Representative Marvin Sunflower (D-California), sponsor of the age-of-consent legislation, told *GCN* of the last-minute process by which the compromise was drafted.

"The lobbyists from the North American Man/Embryo Love Association (NAMELA) were turning

the screws. They threatened to kidnap my children and recruit them to deviant lifestyles, serve in the notorious KGB Boy Sex Ring Spy Organization. But I held out, knowing that my constituents, liberal as they were, would never stand for such radical stuff."

Sunflower explained, however, that a fortuitous circumstance changed his mind: "By sheer coincidence, a young Congressional Page working in my office turned out to be a member of NAMELA. He walked into my office one day while I was reading a book and asked if he could have a few minutes of my time. I said, of course. I put down my book after bending over the Page. Suddenly it was clear. I had to sponsor this legislation. We've spent many charming minutes together since."

"Besides," Sunflower added, "I think it's important in our society to be tolerant of each other's private personal lifestyles. You know, live and let live. This is off the record, isn't it?"

The only problem with passing both bills, according to one highly-placed and usually reliable source who asked not to be identified, was

that the legislators couldn't decide which bill to pass first. "The Republicans were afraid that if they passed the age-of-consent bill first, the Democrats would pull a fast one," he said. "They could quickly vote to adjourn and go hide in the Congressional Cloakroom. And the Democrats were afraid that if they passed the Human Life Amendment first, the Republicans would do the same. So they all just sat there."

Finally, House leaders called in special agents from the Environmental Protection Agency to fill the room with smoke and shredded paper. When the smoke cleared, the Speaker announced the surprise compromise, and it was gaveled through on an enthusiastic and unanimous voice vote.

Asked about the possibility that the American public might find the new law peculiar, Representative Filibuster quoted the German statesman Otto von Bismarck: "Those who cherish laws and sausages should not ask how either is made."

— filed from Bridgewater



Wehav Nocamera

## Operation Closet Homosexuals Harrass FBI, Move Into Latin America

By Jedgar Hoosier

EL SALVADOR — A recent \$4.32 study produced by the CIA reveals that homosexual men and lesbians have been harassing the FBI. According to John Smith, a CIA agent who has fled the US because of the persistent persecution by "gay" terrorists, a clandestine network of homosexuals has expanded their base to Latin America. "They are currently threatening to over-throw the legitimate government here. They have completely undermined our multi-billion dollar coup," Smith also commented that the CIA's \$60 billion study of the homosexual infiltration of the FBI uncovered covert homosexual activities in major American cities.

"Operation Closet" has turned up a vast network of millions of homosexuals hidden in every city and town in America. Homosexual terrorists, under a plan called "Project Come-Out" have attempted to disguise the number of active homosexuals by making it appear

as though their numbers are merely 10 percent of the population.

Because of their campaign to "look and be just like your average American," a promise recently made by the National Gay Task Force, a terrorist front, homosexuals have actually infiltrated the FBI, and harassed agents by attempting to meet with them in bathrooms or other secluded places. Smith, reporting on harassment he encountered while infiltrating the FBI for the CIA, commented that "listening devices, which were believed to be exact replicas of Bell telephones and could be activated only by calling a seven digit code, were discovered to be real telephones installed by lesbians posing as telephone installers." When queried about why women were admitted to the men's lavatories, Smith admitted that, "It's hard to tell about people nowadays, what with the way they dress and all."

— file eenz

## Cambridge Women's Center Reverses S/M Decision

By Brigid Discipline

CAMBRIDGE — In a recent reversal of their highly controversial decision to exclude an S/M support group from meeting in their building, the Cambridge Women's Center announced last evening that the basement would be given over to the group for meetings. Further, the Center will make available money and skilled women for converting the area into "chambers," as one Center

spokeswoman called them.

This solution to the conflict was first suggested at a Core meeting where many members of the women's community at-large attended to show support for the S/M women.

Originally proposed by a representative from the Battered Women's Project who said, "Why don't we just give them the basement, let them build torture chambers down

there and freak out the whole place?" the proposal was lost in a discussion of why the women didn't just "go home and beat each other up." At a subsequent meeting, the proposal was read from the earlier minutes and voted on in quick order.

Construction on the basement is scheduled to begin in a few weeks.

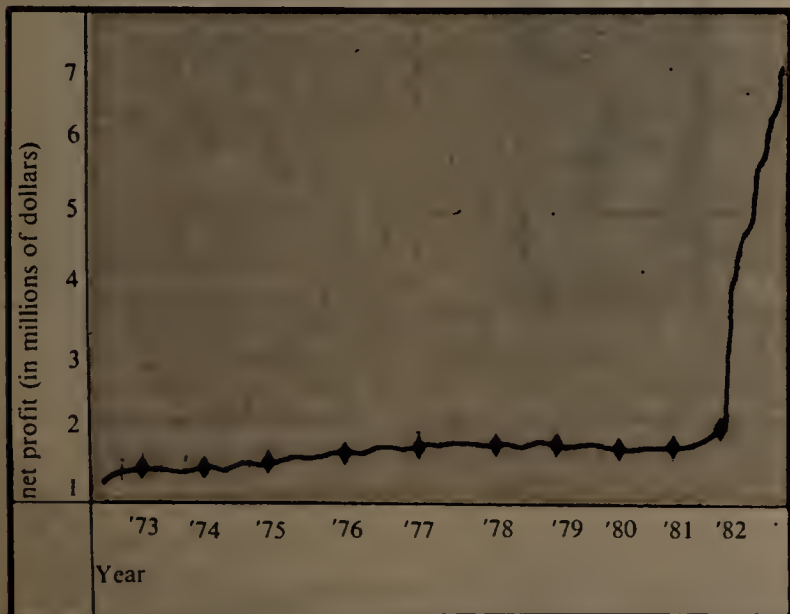
— filed my chains

## GCN Shows Huge Profits

By Dick Neverleft

BOSTON — The Board of Directors of the *Gay Community News* reports that the newspaper has earned record profits in 1982. These earnings, up sharply this year after a long period of sluggish growth, surprised market analysts but not those in the *GCN* membership. "We always knew that this rag would sell," said one *GCN* insider.

Board members, declining to be quoted until plans for the money are finalized, have indicated that it will be used for *GCN*'s traditional yearly salary increases and staff bonuses, as well as for a dividend for the membership. A low interest loan program is being considered, to enable all subscribers to purchase their own typesetting equipment.



## Naked Homosexuals Attack Motorists

By Glory Holesmut

CHELMSFORD, MA — Residents of this quiet God-fearing town were forced to defend themselves with chainsaws yesterday when an army of stark naked lascivious homosexuals performed

perverted deeds in an otherwise bucolic rest stop.

"There musta been at least two of 'em," said Chelmsford Selectman Norman Tidewater. "Fortunately, I remembered what we learned in civics class about a well-regulated militia of citizens. I picked up my trusty chainsaw and defended myself against this Com-

munist Menace." Asked if his choice of weapon was perhaps a little extreme, Tidewater became enraged. "They wuz stark naked! One of them might have hurt me!" he screamed.



Wehav Nocamera

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munist Menace." Asked if his choice of weapon was perhaps a little extreme, Tidewater became enraged. "They wuz stark naked! One of them might have hurt me!" he screamed.

Tidewater, a charter member of the National Chainsaw Association, added that he thought critics of such weaponry were "a bunch of lily-livered pansies, not to mix a metaphor."

After all," noted Chelmsford Police Chief Raymond McLewd, "chainsaws don't kill homosexuals — heterosexuals kill homosexuals."

— filed from Boston

## FBI Funds Youth

By Muzzle

WASHINGTON — The Federal Bureau of Investigation has announced that it is awarding a ten million dollar grant for the creation of a nationwide system of youth centers. According to the grant recipient, NAMBLA (The North American Man/Boy Love Association) the centers will provide counselling and a loving environment.

The grant is one of several being awarded by federal agencies since the recent crackdown by the Internal Revenue Service and the Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms Commission on agencies that acquire large sums of heretofore not declared monies. Hardest hit are those agencies that regularly appropriate and convert into cash highly sought after contraband.

An inside source explained that the youth centers will provide a tax shelter for the Bureau. A NAMBLA spokesperson stated that their organization was thrilled by the grant and that they expect to hear about a proposed matching funds grant from the CIA any day.



# Complaining Vices

## hopeful health hypothesis

To the Editors:

Re: recent articles regarding Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). Recent articles in *GCN* and elsewhere regarding the affliction AIDS have left me horrified. AIDS has killed hundreds of people in the short time since it appeared in Spring of 1981. Its causes and origins are a mystery to medical science. However, having been trained in recognizing patterns in viral diseases, I have recently discovered, through a series of media reports, what I think is the missing piece in the solution to the AIDS puzzle. As has been reported, AIDS strikes only Haitians, Homosexuals, Hemophiliacs, and Heroin-users. It appears to me that those susceptible to AIDS are those people whose identities are linked to the letter "H." I have suspected this link for several weeks but was not convinced until a recent *Boston Globe* article detailing the latest group to be attacked by this horrid disease — Heterosexuals.

If my hypothesis is correct, some frightening questions arise. How can we protect the innocent peoples of Helsinki, Houston, and Honduras? Is there danger lurking for Housewives, Hair-stylists, Hippies, and Historians? Are we not even safe in our own Homes?

Clearly the evidence, however circumstantial, merits the careful study of my hypothesis. This horrible disease must be halted for, in the end, however horrifying the notion may be, we are all . . . Homo Sapiens.

Hopefully Helpful,  
Ciscoe Louis  
Harvard School of Human Health

P.S. Lest we grow complacent, it must be remembered that, even in death, danger lurks be it in Heaven or Hell.

## newest fantasy

Dear *GCN*:

Are lesbians really the newest men's fantasy? And could we maybe order a couple dozen?

Bill, John and Bob  
Still in College

## k-9s, too

Dear *GCN*,

I am sick and tired of reading nothing but news, features, and personal ads pertaining to the primate community. You humans give too much coverage to yourselves!

Sincerely,  
Buffy  
Cambridge, MA

P.S. I am sorry I could not type this letter, but a large clumsy human stepped on my paw this week.

## save the breeders

Dear *GCN*,

I know you're all caught up in the flurry of gay life: parties, art openings, Broadway shows, concerts, intimate dinners, and, of course, fabulous sex. What homosexual isn't? But have you ever stopped to think what it's like for those less fortunate who are . . . Breeders? Imagine going to bars where they played music to which you could not dance! Imagine not having special outfits for different activities! Imagine not being able to go to the same bathroom as your lover! Imagine using birth control! These and other horrifying tragedies befall Breeders daily. You can help. Please don't hit hets. Send money instead. The Breeder you save may be your mother.

Thank you,  
Society for the Preservation of Hets  
LA, CA

## killer lesbian disease

Dear Editors:

All this shit about fags getting AIDS! What about the killer lesbian disease: The Bad Back. No one gives benefits for *that*, do they? Shee-it.

Woopsie Daisy  
Boston, MA

## trendy ?

Dear *GCN*,

First I tried orgies and one night stands. Fine. That I could handle. Then it was S&M and bondage. O.K., I did it. All of it, even the broken glass. But now I hear that the newest lesbian trend is fucking men. What I want to know is first, is this true; and second, isn't there some *other* way of being avant-garde and shocking?

Giggles Marydaughter  
San Francisco, CA

## too much

Dear *Gyn/Communist News*,

I think there's too much emphasis on gay in this paper. Lesbian mothers, homosexual diseases, Unicorn with same sex "sother," yuck. People tell me the idea behind all this homosexual hyperbole is to make a more "together" "gay community." Well, I think the "gay community" is just fine the way it is. In fact, if anything, it's too "gay." We should take a hint from the other people out there and not try so hard. You don't see any papers devoted to making a better "straight community," do you?

And speaking of the real world out there, I don't see why people complain about the paper running stuff about Palestine or abortion. I don't agree with these commies or baby killers, but at least when I read about them it isn't all gay, gay, gay. What I really want to read is *human* interest stories. How about a profile on some nice politician, like Boston's Mayor White, or New York's Mayor Koch?

Koch, by the way, almost got us a "gay rights" bill passed the other day. I'll bet the hearing was full of "gyn's" and commies screaming for "gay rights." We just want our *human* rights, like all the others of our species. If leaders of human rights organizations and editors of human rights newspapers had testified calmly instead, I'm sure the bill would've passed. We really should have just asked them to take out the part about "gay rights" altogether — it only alienates people anyway — then the bill would have passed for sure.

Sign me,  
A. Human Being

# Freaking Out Holes Are Best

By Irving Void

Class, color, mainstream vs. independent stream politics, power-issues, sexuality — all these minutiae are secondary to the primary contradiction: womb or penis. It all boils down to which holes you have. Women are holier than men; men have smaller holes therefore less room for their emotions. Transsexuals, hermaphrodites, hemorrhoid sufferers are another story entirely and should not be included in any discussion our community has, after all what is gay except wholly this or that.

A penis is not meant to fill holes. A womb is more than a hole but less than a whole without a baby. If this sounds like the new right, it's because the gay community has internalized too many of the new right's values. I think it's time we staked out our own territory.

A hole-istic view of the world would solve many of the problems facing the lesbian and gay men's community in America. We could accurately gauge a person's potential by the number of holes s/he has. We need to return to our biological basis because without our bodies, after all we would not be gays. Women are not for fucking, penises are. Penises are inherently nothing more than wombs externalized. We in the lesbian and gay community need to bridge our differences and move to unify penis and womb into one hole.

## Gyn/Communist News

MUSTY HEAD

(Here today, Gone Tomorrow!)

MANAGING EDITOR  
Who Me?  
NEWS EDITOR  
Nonez S. Goodnez  
FEATURES EDITOR  
Germ Ranger  
ART DIRECTOR  
X. Acto Blade  
OFFICE MANAGER  
N. Ter Slowly  
ADVERTISING MANAGER  
Sellya Motha  
CIRCULATION/STAFF WRITER  
Call Me 'Jilted'  
LOCAL REPORTER  
Glory Holesmut  
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R. Blades, Lawyer T. Bee, Actlv Ist,  
A. Nother Student, B. Tersex  
ATTORNEY  
Don-Say Nuthin

We are a collective of 10.5 people (on a good day), composed roughly of 6.2 women, 3.1 men, 2.3 womoons, and .8 min. Three of us wear shakti sandals year round, all others alternate between work boots and jogging shoes. There are 6.3 vegetarians, one ultra-fruitarian (see Freaking Out Colon), none of us will eat or make chicken soup. Coffee is consumed at a rate of six pounds a week, we use only the most expensive Meliors in solidarity with our gay brothers and sisters who must slave in posh restaurants. Two of the women are attempting to grow full beards in solidarity with our gay male brothers. Castration has been suggested as an expression of solidarity with the women. One staff member is into dildos, and finds the concept of castration offensive, so that staff has been unable to arrive at consensus. Many of our staff were once Friday folders and did their best work then. Several of us are from the South and Mid-West and are still confused about whether the Green Line Northbound will get us to Park St. Station. We welcome your comments and criticisms on alternate Wednesdays, but never more than one day past the date of publication of the previous issue. We especially appreciate your financial contributions which, if they amount to more than \$12,000 this year, will allow the Sustainer Committee to send one staff member, one way, to Siberia. That is \$11.23½ per subscriber, add another 44¢ if your dog or cat "uses" *GCN* when you are finished reading it. Remember: It's OUR Newspaper!

A Service Announcement

... yes, you! Imagine yourself at home one evening with your own true love ...

IT COULD HAPPEN TO YOU!!!

OH, ROXIE, I'M SO GLAD WE'RE TOGETHER!

OH, STAR, I HAVE SOMETHING TO TELL YOU...

... I'VE LOVED EVERY MINUTE I'VE SPENT WITH YOU! YOU'VE REALLY OPENED ME UP TO A WHOLE BUNCH OF REALLY AFFIRMING EXPERIENCES! I NEVER KNEW JUST HOW MUCH OF A WOMAN I COULD BE, AND YOU SHOWED ME!! BUT I ALWAYS SAID IT WAS YOU, AND NOT ALL WOMEN, AND, WELL, I'M KINDA FEELING LIKE I WANT TO HAVE BABIES THESE DAYS, AND I DO STILL WANT TO BE INVOLVED WITH MEN, SO I GUESS I'LL GO BACK...

OH, NO! TOO BAD STAR DIDN'T HAVE ...

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## Become A Fashionable

# Political Victim



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Regular Tee Shirt (XXS, XS, XXXXL) in trendy colors: Guaranteed to draw attention to you in any location where the Vice Cops are present — pink, lavender, puse \$19.84.

Guatemalan cut (one size only — with gorgeously designed burns) (Please note: We cannot assure that all shirts will have two arms, or even a complete torso.) Send certified check or cash only. You have no options as to style — after all this is fascism.

**GCN Tee Shirt**  
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Jonestown, GUYANA

At last, *Gyn/Communist News* supplies the answer to the ever present problem of what to wear to queer-bashing spots, police riots, Latin American countries, prisons, gay newspaper offices, and other op-

Shoshana T. Daniel & Frederic Evans



# GayCommunityNews

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April 2, 1983

## Harassment of Northampton Lesbians Continues

By Jil Clark

NORTHAMPTON, MA — A campaign of harassment against lesbians and lesbian institutions has resumed here, following a month of calm which left local lesbians hopeful that the siege was over.

However, the county district attorney has said he expects to arrest someone in connection with the threats soon.

At least 30 lesbians have received obscene or silent phone calls or notes and 12 have received death threats and physical threats since December 8.

Also, early in the fall, a wave of anti-lesbian violence swept the community; at least two lesbians were raped and others assaulted. One rape victim said her assailants had an anti-lesbian vendetta. (See *GCN*, Vol. 10, No. 29)

A few women suspect that the rapists and the phone harassers are the same persons, but police and the D.A. have said they have no evidence indicating this.

A five-week reprieve ended abruptly with calls to Woman Fyre

Bookstore from Stop Homosexual Unity Now (S.H.U.N.), a group allegedly based in nearby Amherst, on March 11 and 12. Soon afterwards, a threat on the lives of Bet Birdfish, the caretaker of the New Alexandria Lesbian Library, and Kiriyo Spooner, an owner of Woman Fyre, was left on the phone answering machine of a local theater group.

The recorded message, found on Monday morning, March 14, went as follows: "Bet Birdfish will be next. Kiriyo Spooner will be second. Woman Fyre Books will be third. We have had enough. We will not be stopped. Tuesday Woman Fyre Books will be burned to the ground. Be warned."

— S.H.U.N.

Since then, Birdfish has received numerous "hang-up calls" and workers at the bookstore have discovered on the tape machine short messages from S.H.U.N. "delivered in that same deadpan voice," said Spooner.

"We've made it through two Tuesdays now and nothing's happened," said Spooner. "Right now I feel that every day we're still here

is a victory for us and a loss for them. But obviously I can't continue like this, I can't live my life being hounded by these people."

Spooner and others feel discouraged. "Over the last month, we'd been hoping that going public and gathering city officials' support would intimidate (the harassers)," said Spooner, referring to a February 8 meeting between lesbians and city officials about the current harassment.

At that meeting, lesbians angrily accused Northampton police of not taking the harassment seriously because the victims were lesbian. At the 2½ hour meeting, a score of lesbians testified that they had been harassed and that the police had treated their cases insensitively and carelessly. They said the police had neglected to follow up leads provided by the lesbian community.

Following the meeting, Birdfish told *GCN* that lesbians have provided the police with at least five threatening letters and tapes of phone calls. Regarding the rapes, they have offered police composite sketches of specific assailants and turned in the license plate number

of a van matching the description of one used in a rape and a suspected rape attempt.

"They've done nothing with this information," Birdfish charged.

Birdfish, one of the first victims of the harassment, added that her car had recently been sideswiped while parked overnight at the library.

"Someone had to drive up onto the sidewalk to hit it. But the police suggested that it could be a coincidence."

Another lesbian sketched-out for city officials a history of anti-gay harassment in the Northampton area and dismissed theories that the harassers are "practical jokers . . . pranksters . . . out for a good time."

Police have maintained that they are taking the harassment cases as seriously as any others, and emphasized that these cases are difficult to pursue.

Moreover, according to Hampshire County D.A. Michael Ryan, progress has been made recently — whether or not this is the result of community pressure applied on February 8.

"A picture is beginning to emerge," Ryan said in an interview with *GCN*. "I get the sense from reading the notes that the perpetrator is not a very clever person. I think with the amount of energy and time being spent on [the investigation by the police], we should have something soon."

Ryan said that investigators have gotten "diverted . . . when some guy at UMass (the main campus of the University of Massachusetts, located in Amherst) gets drunk and starts calling numbers from a gay paper. That sets us off the track of the serious threats."

Ryan added that he thinks that the rapes and assaults in August and September are not connected, "except in the cultural sense. The problem is that once a climate of hostility gets created, it feeds off itself [and] gives encouragement to others to act out their aggressiveness . . . That's why this office thought it was important to take a strong stand."

Approximately 200 lesbians, gay men and leftist supporters packed the February meeting with Northampton mayor David Musante, Ryan and two Northampton police detectives. Representatives of the lesbian and gay male community presented 14 demands — ranging from a requirement that police keep a separate log of homophobic attacks which would be open for inspection by lesbians and gay men, to a mayoral endorsement of the second annual lesbian and gay rights march this spring. Neither of these demands and few of the other twelve have been met.

However, perhaps the most useful of the demands has been met: members of the lesbian and gay male communities will soon begin meeting regularly with city officials and the D.A.'s office to tackle the problem of homophobic violence and harassment here. According to mayor's assistant Marcia Burick, the task force will be comprised of four lesbians, two gay men, Detective Michael Wall, Assistant D.A. David Angier, and Burick.

Among the demonstrators outside the municipal hall on the evening of February 8 were members of the New Jewish Agenda and a group which opposes U.S. intervention in El Salvador, and straight people who live in Northampton.

— filed from Boston

## AIDS Network Outlines Demands Health Office Set Up After Koch Pressured

By Bob Nelson

NEW YORK — After months of discussion and lobbying from the gay community, Mayor Ed Koch announced on March 9 the appointment of Dr. Roger Enlow to head up a new Office of Gay and Lesbian Health Concerns (see *GCN*, Vol. 10, No. 35). Enlow, a member of New York Physicians for Human Rights, and the founder of the New York AIDS Network, an inter-group forum, will be on a leave of absence from his position as a rheumatologist at the Hospital for Joint Diseases, a private hospital affiliated with Mount Sinai Hospital and Beth Israel Medical Center.

"I found myself being drawn from the practice of rheumatology into the care of AIDS patients and the investigation of basic immunological issues," said Enlow in an interview in his new office in the city's Department of Health. "I just felt that something had to change. I came to Dr. David Sencer, a senior public health officer and commissioner of health, for advice, and said, 'I'm looking for a way to do more of what I'm doing and to do it better with more positive effects and with less stress on me personally.' His response was, 'Let's work together and see what we can build.' There's no doubt in my mind that it came about because of his thoughtfulness and his commitment to the idea."

A final impetus for the establishment of the office seems to have been a letter to Mayor Koch signed by individuals and groups in the AIDS Network, and organized by Ron Vachon, Executive Director of the National Gay Health Education Foundation and convener of the Network during Enlow's absence on vacation in late February. "The letter was very carefully worded so as not to offend the mayor, but it was strongly worded," said



Dr. Roger Enlow

Vachon. "Everything that had been done about AIDS had so far been done by the gay community, and we felt it was time for the city to do something."

The letter, delivered to the mayor's office on March 7, listed twelve demands relating to gay health care, among them the establishment of an AIDS coordinator in the city's Department of Health, research funds, a proclamation of a "state of extreme public emergency," and a face-to-face meeting with the mayor.

"The mayor's office might deny this, but as far as anyone in the gay community is concerned, that letter was the final push for establishing the office," said Chris Clark, assistant director of the Gay Men's Health Crisis, a key lobbying group in the discussions about gay health.

Herb Rickmann, liaison to the gay community in Mayor Koch's office, said, "We're delighted over the appointment and it's something we want very much. But I can't give you anything about how it came about."

Enlow says that the primary purpose of his office will be to "take gay and lesbian health care out of the closet" by improving health care delivery to the gay community; he mentioned establishing a city-funded clinic to examine gay and lesbian patients.

## Students Press For Recruitment Ban

By David Morris

CAMBRIDGE, MA — A conflict over on-campus recruiting by the Navy, as an employer who discriminates against lesbians and gay men, could cost Harvard University three million dollars in Defense Department funding.

The conflict arose in early March when members of the Harvard-Radcliffe Gay and Lesbian Students Association announced their intention to circulate petitions calling for an open meeting between students and Navy officials to discuss Navy recruiting policy, an option provided by a university regulation. Although Harvard has not yet officially invited the Navy to participate in such a meeting, regional recruiting officers have claimed they would refuse to do so.

The Military Procurement Act of 1973 denies Defense Department funding to any school which bars military recruiters from campus.

G. Aaron Broadwell, chair of the gay student group, told *GCN* he is confident that the 500 signatures required by the university regulation will be collected by the March 28 deadline. If the Navy formally refuses to attend the open meeting which will then be scheduled, Harvard officials will be required to ban Navy recruiters when the planned recruiting period begins on

April 12.

On March 16, after the gay petition drive had begun, the Harvard Faculty Council reaffirmed its open meeting regulation, originally passed in 1968 in response to campus recruiting by Dow Chemical Corporation, the manufacturer of chemical weapons used in the war in Vietnam.

The Boston *Globe* quotes Harvard Dean of Students Archie Epps as saying, "We're not sure what is the level of risk we're running." But Broadwell said he doubts Harvard will actually lose the Defense Department funding since the Military Procurement Act concerns consistent patterns of banning recruiters and applies only if the armed forces are specifically banned. The Act permits limits on recruiting carried out "in good faith without discrimination against military recruitment."

A Harvard spokesperson said the loss of funds is "clearly a possibility and it would be a matter of great concern to Harvard."

The Harvard spokesperson told *GCN* that informal negotiations with the Navy are currently underway to arrange a compromise acceptable to both sides.

Broadwell told *GCN* that if recruiters are banned and if the Navy then seeks enforcement of the

Military Procurement Act, "there will be a long court battle and publicity for a month. If they don't, then that will be the last we'll hear about it for a while."

Conflicts between universities and the armed forces over anti-gay discrimination began last summer when the Army's judge advocate general warned seven law schools, including Harvard's, that they might lose Defense Department funding if they ban military recruiters for discriminating. So far, no university has actually lost such funding.

Early press reports indicated that the Navy had refused to participate in an open meeting with Harvard students. Lt. Valerie Bruce, director of public information for Navy recruiting in the Northeast, is quoted in several accounts as saying that since the Navy is a volunteer organization it is under no obligation to explain its hiring practices. But a Navy spokesperson in the Pentagon told *GCN* that nothing reported so far represents the Navy's position. The Navy has not made a decision, he said, because there has as yet been no official contact with Harvard. He added that in any case Navy policy is a "mirror of Department of Defense policy."



# News Notes

## quote of the week

"Fuck 'em if they can't take a joke!"  
— GCN staff regarding the infamous April Fool's issue.

## aclu revises gay rights handbook

NEW YORK — The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) has announced the publication of a revised edition of their handbook entitled *The Rights of Gay People*.

This handbook described the recent advances and continuing obstacles in the daily lives of gay people in every area, from freedom of speech to employment, to immigration, to housing, public accommodations and the family.

*The Rights of Gay People* includes an updated state-by-state review of criminal statutes relating to consensual homosexual acts between adults and a list of groups willing to assist gay men and lesbians in securing legal help.

Authored by Thomas Stoddard and Marilyn Haft, it is available for \$3.95 from the Literature Department, ACLU, 132 West 43rd St., N.Y., NY 10036. Postage and handling charges will be added.

## campaign fund head steps down

WASHINGTON — The director of the Gay Rights National Lobby (GRNL) announced on March 10 that he will resign as the chief executive officer of the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF), according to the *Washington Blade*.

Steve Endean, will remain with the HRCF in the capacity of treasurer, but will relinquish all other HRCF duties. Endean's announcement follows a March 4-5 meeting of the HRCF board of directors during which board members questioned the wisdom of Endean's continuing to administer three organizations at once. He is also head of the Right to Privacy Foundation.

The HRCF is an independent political action committee, the purposes of which is to raise funds for distribution to candidates supportive of gay rights. In 1982, HRCF raised and distributed nearly \$600,000 for key congressional races.

## military "no problem" for mit

BOSTON — Although about a half dozen law schools and now two undergraduate schools have taken steps to ban U.S. armed forces recruiters from their campuses, an official at Massachusetts Institute of Technology was quoted by the *MIT Tech* as saying military discrimination against gays hasn't "triggered any problems."

Robert K. Weatherall, director of career planning and placement, explained that MIT requires employers who wish to recruit sign a form verifying that it "considers candidates without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, handicap or sexual orientation." Military recruiters sign the form and Weatherall said, "I don't think we should make it a problem."

The campus gay and lesbian group, Gays at MIT, disagrees and is considering further action to guarantee recruiters at MIT will not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation.

## north carolina gay students insulted by ad

CHAPEL HILL, NC — Gay Students here were targets of inter-school rivalry in the February 18 publication of "The Daily Tar Heel," a pre-basketball game spoof of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill campus daily newspaper *The Daily Tar Heel*, by neighboring North Carolina State University, according to the Lambda newsletter of the Carolina Gay Association (CGA).

While some gays found the issue humorous, others took exception to a composite ad for "The Queer Hunter," a movie starring "Charles Bronson, Truman Capote and Peter O'Toole, now playing at a theatre near you." The composite pictured two men climbing steps and holding hands and, in the foreground, someone training a rifle on the couple.

The ad originally ran last April Fool's Day in the NCSU's newspaper. Several letter writers accused the editors of objectifying homosexuals and inciting anti-gay violence.

A letter from the CGA president to NCSU's paper chided them for insensitivity and demanded an apology, but no response has yet been received.

## jail director changes tune on prisoner rapes

WASHINGTON — The *Washington Post* reports that the director of corrections in Prince George's County has shown a marked change of attitude toward rapes and sexual assaults which have occurred in a county detention facility.

Twelve indictments have been handed down in connection with the assaults, as well as a civil suit filed by the ACLU Prison Project on behalf of one of the victims.

Arnett Gaston had previously stated he did not believe the rapes had occurred. However, he recently was quoted as saying that there is a problem at the facility and that he was "shocked" to learn that assaults frequently take place at the jail. Gaston may be responding to the comments of a newly elected county executive who is reported to be considering a major shake-up of the administration at the troubled facility.



## medical students come out in cleveland

CLEVELAND — A group of lesbian and gay medical students continued a tradition of visibility at the American Medical Student Association's (AMSA) 33rd annual convention in Cleveland, March 2-6, according to Beth Cookson of the University of Massachusetts Medical School in Worcester.

Workshops and organizational meetings sponsored by Lesbian and Gay People in Medicine (LGPIM) drew from 40-80 of the approximately 1000 students at the convention. Open and closeted gay students ran for a number of national offices.

LGPIM sponsored three workshops. The first featured Dr. Roger Enlow, director of the New York City Office on Gay and Lesbian Health Concerns, who provided an update on AIDS. A second workshop focused on sexual abuse of children with an emphasis on debunking myths of gays as child molesters. And in the third, a panel discussed the importance of a non-judgmental and open-minded approach to taking medical histories.

## episcopals plan easter service for hearing impaired

BOSTON — An Episcopalian Easter vigil interpreted for the hearing impaired will be held on April 2 at 8:00 p.m. at St. John the Evangelist Church at 33 Bowdoin St. in Boston.

For more information, call 227-5242, a hearing number at the church. The service is sponsored by the Boston chapter of Integrity, the Episcopalian group for gay men and lesbians.

## mexican gay group begins educational campaign

MEXICO CITY — The Cuilotzin Gay Liberation Collective of Mexico City is conducting a series of public discussions about male homosexuality, lesbianism and feminism to correct misconceptions about gay people and to raise the consciousness of both gay and straight people. The forums will address issues of sexuality and disease prevention, gays in family structures and anti-gay repression in Mexico, and will run through June 14.

The same group has called for unity among all oppressed groups in Mexico to cope with problems faced in the present economic crisis in that country. The Cuilotzin Collective is issuing information that is relevant to other sectors of the population, such as workers, peasants, students and heads of families.

To contact Cuilotzin Collective, write them at A.P. 13-745/03500 Mexico/ D.F.

## "gay reputation" opinion to have no impact

CHARLESTOWN, WV — According to the *Washington Blade*, the state superintendent of schools in West Virginia is seeking to downplay the significance of an anti-gay opinion issued by that state's attorney general. (See related story in *GCN* Vol. 10, No. 34.)

Dr. Roy Truby, superintendent of the state's 55 county school systems, said he does not believe the opinion will have any impact "at all, period" on teachers. The opinion said that a public school teacher could be dismissed if he/she is openly gay because the teacher's reputation as a gay person would adversely affect his/her ability to teach. The opinion also said that it was not necessary that overtly sexual acts be witnessed, but that simply being "known" as a gay person was sufficient grounds for removal.

Truby also said that the opinion does not obligate the state to go in and find out whether or not a teacher is gay.

## missouri men harassed and jailed in boy love cases

JOPLIN — A Missouri man has received a seven year sentence in the state penitentiary on charges of engaging in sex with minors while similar charges were dropped against eleven other men, according to the *Gay News-Telegraph* of St. Louis.

A total of eighteen men were indicted as a result of a grand jury investigation in Jasper County, Missouri. The eleven whose charges were dropped had all entered pleas of innocent and the prosecuting attorney has admitted that he was not able to get anyone to testify against them. The young men involved were in their early teens and the prosecuting attorney has said that of the fifteen to thirty cases being considered, only one involved the use of force.

The man sentenced to prison is one of a group of seven men who entered pleas of guilty. Sentencing will continue through April and observers say the judge is obviously biased in favor of the prosecution. The judge has also indicated that with his seven-year sentence of the first defendant, he is "setting an example for others."

The *Gay News-Telegraph* reports that local gays have been very critical of the investigation. They have pointed out that it has been conducted in a public manner with full disclosure of names and addresses and dramatic arrests in public and work places.

Activists also say that the prosecuting attorney is using the investigation as a springboard to run for higher office and has created an atmosphere of panic by urging parents to "be vigilant" when it comes to "the threat of homosexuality." Gays have also observed that the investigation is a waste of the county's time and resources.

## book banning bandwagons

NILES, MI — In southwestern Michigan, fundamentalists visited a number of public libraries, scanning card catalogues, and making photocopies. The Reverend David McQuade of Life Action Ministries asked the board of the Niles Community Library to "reconsider" four books on homosexuality and to place them on a shelf to be restricted for "adult" books.

Area residents were then told to organize on the behalf of the library and First Amendment values. The National Coalition Against Censorship, an organization that works to protect First Amendment rights, worked closely with them, furnishing materials and suggestions. Their statement of support for the Niles Library said in part: "No group has the right to impose its own ideas of politics, morality or religion on other members of a democratic society. Freedom does not exist if it is given only to the accepted and inoffensive."



## Forum Discussion Marked by Tolerance

# Audience Heralds New Chapter In Sex Debate?

By Peg Byron

NEW YORK — A public forum entitled "The Feminist Movement and Lesbian S/M" ended with more laughs than name-calling, thanks to many of the 150 women who attended on March 16. The discussion began differently and threatened to resemble the long, narrow room into which we were crammed. Instead, women broke some of the barriers around the s/m issue by speaking, at times with humor, about personal experiences and anxieties in finding their own sexual styles. The tone of the evening showed that many lesbians' tolerance and need for exploring sexual topics has been overshadowed by a few women with minds already made up on such subject.

The event was organized by Radical Women, a socialist feminist group, and held at New York University's Lobe Student Center.

"I thought it was a fairly decent beginning discussion, a good beginning step," said Maxine Reigel, Radical Women's New York organizer and the evening's moderator. "Several women told me they really appreciated it. The history of this debate has been very hostile."

The debate about lesbian s/m and feminism has deeply divided and confused women all across the country; this forum may have been a turning point and the start of more open and supportive discussion in the New York community. Only one year ago, the community was shaken by Women Against Pornography's (WAP) protest of the Barnard's Scholar and Feminist Conference on Sex. Women wearing t-shirts that said "Against S and M" and "For a Feminist Sexuality" handed out leaflets naming many lesbians in the community as unfeminist and not fit to speak either because they participated or did not condemn s/m.

Articles in the feminist press

around the country and the publication of a book, *Against Sado-Masochism, Toward a Feminist Sexuality*, all concerned with lesbian and gay sexual practices increased a peculiar sense of division among radicals.

This made the structure of the recent forum worrisome. Radical Women had invited speakers from WAP and from the Lesbian Sex Mafia (LSM) to head off the evening. Since LSM is a support group for any consensual sex, the evening seemed designed to pit WAP's feminism against LSM's depravity, with Radical Women as referee.

The audience, however, was made up of a variety of women outside these organizations, especially since both groups are very small. The audience later dominated the evening with a wider range of viewpoints. The speakers offered somewhat predictable opinions.

Sheila Rohrer, of WAP, described s/m as "an extension of heterosexual institutions" and "the eroticization of oppression." She said that in WAP's analysis, women's oppression is "fundamentally sexual." Rohrer said, "The feminist movement must confront lesbian s/m."

Rohrer quoted the usual easy targets, Pat Califia and Amber Hollibaugh — and pointed out the "flaws" in their personal fantasies. Califia and Hollibaugh are among the few lesbians who have written explicitly about sex — the same topic which drew the crowd to this discussion and about which lesbians keep asking for more.

Rohrer herself complained that discussions on sexuality were stifled by judgmental responses among lesbians. Later in the evening, another WAP member admitted "Maybe we have to talk more about what we do. We seem to have illusions about each other. We're sexual, too, you know."

Susan Williams of Radical

Women made some mixed and some novel observations. She criticized feminists like those in N.O.W. (National Organization for Women) and Betty Friedan for their shift to the right and especially for their abandonment of lesbians, "S/m practitioners are victimized and arrested in our society," she said. "Nonetheless, s/m is inherently sexist and patriarchal. I've never seen a cogent explanation of why it is not (sexist and patriarchal) in lesbian relationships."

Williams also criticized attempts like WAP's to call some women unfeminist because of their sexuality. "I've often been red-baited and shoved aside in the women's movement," she said. Then she warned against focusing on personal lifestyles instead of changing material conditions to win equality. This contrasted with WAP's assertion that women's oppression is primarily sexual.

Unlike WAP and Radical Women, LSM is a support group and so

political analysis is not its strong suit. Carol Demech spoke as a member, not a representative of the group. She acknowledged that exploring sexuality and power is scary, but said "S/m is not done for political reasons — just as being a lesbian isn't — but it's become political."

Instead of just discussing why lesbians "do it," Demech turned the question around and asked why her sexuality is a matter of public debate. She compared accusations from straights ("she eats pussy") to those from feminists ("she tortures pussy"). "But the real issues are racism, anti-Semitism, ageism, the economy, . . . We don't need to be spending so much time arguing about what goes on in women's bedrooms between consenting adults."

In spite of the applause Demech got for these statements, the audience stuck with the topic for the next hour and a half. The discussion was at times tense or critical,

but nearly all of it tolerant, especially as women loosened up. The greatest amount of criticism fell on political interpretations of any individual's fantasy. Some women described the confusion that same approach caused them during the early part of the lesbian movement.

The relative ease with which women exchanged viewpoints was encouraging to many and surprising to quite a few. It might have been a little different if accusations by Sheila Rohrer against some women had been addressed; if references to s/m were more explicit; if LSM members had not refrained from wearing their leather and WAP members their t-shirts. These are all items that raise the emotional level and eventually must be addressed in ongoing discussions. Such discussions have yet to develop, but women laid good groundwork last week by listening to each other without making cliché distinctions about correct and incorrect politics.

## Gay Club Backs Feinstein In Mayoral Recall Drive

By John Mehring

SAN FRANCISCO — By a razor-thin margin of three votes, the Alice B. Toklas Memorial Democratic Club joined the Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights (CRIR) in becoming the second — and the only Democratic Party-affiliated — gay political organization to support Mayor Dianne Feinstein in her battle to remain in office. A ballot question regarding the recall of the mayor will be voted on by San Franciscans on April 26.

A total of 222 votes were cast at the March 14 meeting with the following breakdown: 73 yes — in favor of recall (33%), 137 no (61%), and 12 "no position" (6%). 60% was required for the club to take a position.

Alice was founded in 1972 and was the nation's first gay Democratic club. Although it remains a predominantly gay organization, it includes within its membership many heterosexuals — estimated at 20% — and several local politicians. Both these groups were heavily in favor of a pro-Feinstein position.

Previous to the Alice vote, CRIR had also voted by a hair to endorse Feinstein. In contrast, the other two San Francisco gay political organizations, Stonewall Gay Democratic Club and the Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club, had both voted by overwhelming margins, 41-3 and 92-17 respectively, to back the recall.

Unlike the other club endorsement sessions, there was no formal presentation of the arguments regarding recall at the Alice meeting. Instead, thirty one-minute "speeches" were given by members, with the positions alternating.

Mayor Feinstein herself had initially been scheduled by the club to appear — with the attendant publicity — but she was, in fact, out of town on official business. Alice President, Randy Stallings, apologized for the "misconception" and stressed that "no deception" was intended. Her schedule, Stallings admitted, "had never allowed her to be here."

Several well-known lesbian and gay activists spoke in favor of Feinstein. Lesbian activist Del Martin gave what she considered "a lesson in gay history." Martin alluded to the origins of the gay movement in "street theatre" and traced subsequent organizing and influence-building, which she felt

had made the biggest difference in the lives of lesbians and gay men. She then equated the pro-recall positions of the Stonewall and Milk clubs with "street theatre" and Alice with "the organizers" and influence builders.

Those speaking in favor of recall focuses on what they called her "string of broken promises," both to the lesbian and gay community and the progressive movement. She was accused of conducting a generally conservative administration, after her election in 1979 with substantial gay and progressive support. Her veto of gay Supervisor Harry Britt's domestic partner legislation and her inaction regarding anti-gay violence and

police brutality were cited and vehemently denounced.

Observers agree that the main opposition to Feinstein is probably located in the gay community. They further agree that the Milk club is the most credible electoral organization in the pro-recall campaign.

Carole Migden, president of the Milk club, says her club will commit a substantial amount of resources to the effort and hopes to raise around \$20,000 by the end of the campaign. The club plans an extensive street and precinct mobilization and has already registered approximately 100-200 voters each weekend on Castro and Polk streets.

### BLGPA

## "Gay Vote '83" Begun This Week

By David Morris

BOSTON — An organization recently formed in this city has announced its plans for representing the interests of lesbian and gay voters in municipal elections.

At a press conference held on March 23, the Boston Lesbian and Gay Political Alliance (BLGPA) officially launched Boston Gay Vote '83, a campaign to survey and rate candidates, to register voters and to organize the city's gay residents into effective neighborhood political groups.

"No longer will any candidate's silence on lesbian and gay issues be accepted as benign neglect," said BLGPA chairperson Eric Rofes in his opening remarks. "No longer will the slurs of ignorant bigots be excused or silently accepted and no longer will token gestures merit the gratitude of this community."

According to BLGPA member Ann Maguire, candidate's nights for the mayoral, city council and school committee races have already been planned for late May and early June. Members of the organization, of which there are already about 100, will endorse candidates on the basis of their statements at those events and elsewhere during the campaign.

In answer to a reporter's question, Maguire said that it is not the intention of the organization to rate candidates solely on the basis of

their positions on lesbian and gay rights but to make those positions one of the significant factors.

BLGPA spokesperson Tim McFeeley told reporters that in the event a number of candidates for the same office claim to support gay rights, as has happened in some districts in the past, a two-thirds vote of the membership will decide whom to endorse.

When asked whether a BLGPA endorsement might cost a candidate votes in some districts, Maguire pointed out that the endorsement would be publicized only within the gay community. Rofes added that extensive right wing publicity about their support for gay rights had failed to unseat a single sponsor of the national gay rights bill.

McFeeley spoke of the tradition of neighborhood organizing in Boston elections. He said that although such organizing is more difficult with lesbians and gay men, the recently-instituted district city council elections make it an important part of the BLGPA plan. He said neighborhood events, including voter registration, have been planned. McFeeley added that after the elections the neighborhood organizations will serve as watchdogs over elected officials.

For more information on BLGPA events in your neighborhood, call 247-3910.



Susan Ferschmann

### WOMEN'S MARCH RAINED OUT, CELEBRATION MOVED TO YWCA

About 400 women regrouped at the Boston YWCA on Saturday afternoon March 19 to salvage a march washed out by heavy morning rains. Organizers of the celebration and protest commemorating International Women's Day transplanted the uniquely designed march to the Y and the crowd made the best of a somewhat crowded, but dry, auditorium.

Plans for the march had included ten stops along the way with a special program at each one. The audience, although spared a soggy five-mile walk, didn't miss a song, dance or speech of the celebration. Beginning with a history of the Cambridge Women's Center and ending with a performance of the New Women's Chorus, the Y stage was shared by the Girlillas and Ladies Against Women (pictured above), Maxine Feldman, The Women's Pentagon Action, Betsy Rose and Beverly Smith.

The event was organized by an ad hoc coalition of activists from the Cambridge Women's Center, Feminist Coalition and Feminists Against Militarism.



# Community Voices

## fair housing

To The Editor:

Your article on housing discrimination and fair housing policies in Boston, in the last issue of *GCN* has prompted this letter.

The Vermont State Legislature is currently considering a Fair Housing Bill. This bill was also inspired by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, as when Vermont has "substantially equivalent" housing laws it will receive more money from HUD. Currently, Vermont does not have legislation barring discrimination on the basis of sex. This bill will rectify that oversight. It will also bar discrimination on the basis of families with children, source of income and marital status.

The bill was drafted by the Vermont Fair Housing Coalition (VFHC), a group in which I was a member in my capacity as an urban planner. I asked that sexual orientation be included in the bill. Central Vermont Gay Men and Integrity-Burlington sent representatives to VFHC to stress the importance of the inclusion of sexual orientation and it was included in the draft bill. Then without warning, Rep. Peter Youngbaer (D-Plainfield), the bill's sponsor, dropped sexual orientation from the bill when he introduced it to the legislature. His explanation was that the inclusion of sexual orientation would be the kiss of death to the bill.

He has a point. Last year in legislation regarding Battered Women's Shelters it was proposed that unmarried women could use the shelters. Some bright legislator figured out that lesbians would then be eligible to use these facilities and introduced an amendment that would specifically prohibit lesbians from using the shelters, and it passed unanimously. Not one legislator raised so much as an objection. Homophobia runs rampant in the Vermont Legislature.

As a feminist I desperately want this bill passed to protect women, particularly single women with children. The marital status provision would provide some protection to gays, but still, as a lesbian I am furious at the exclusion of sexual orientation. At this time, in this case, it seems that my feminist politics are at odds with my gay politics and I am unsure of how to proceed. For any interested Vermonters who wish to testify about their experiences with housing discrimination, at one or all of the public hearings before the General and Military Affairs (!) Committee, the first such hearing is Thursday, March 10, 1983 at 2 p.m. in Room 9 of the State House in Montpelier. Questions about testifying should be directed to VFHC, c/o John Durgin, Southern Vermont Community Action Council, Box 396, Bellows Falls, VT 05701.

In solidarity,  
Melinda M. Artman  
Barre, VT

### RFD Correction

The centerspread article on *RFD*, A Country Journal for Gay Men Everywhere, which appeared in our March 12 issue (Vol. 10, No. 32) gave incorrect information about subscription rates. One year subs to *RFD* are \$8.50 second class and \$14.00 domestic first class and foreign. *RFD's* address is Route 1, Box 127-E, Bakersville, NC 28075.

### FEATURES EDITOR

*Gay Community News* is looking for a Features Editor. Previous experience helpful. Responsible for soliciting and editing articles and book reviews, planning special supplements. Commitment to feminism and social change. Challenging position in a stimulating environment. Full-time. Low salary, good benefits. Inquiries and resumes to: Managing Editor, *GCN*, 167 Tremont St., Boston, MA 02111. (617) 426-4469.

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(formerly Promotions Manager)

Responsible for designing and implementing campaigns to increase *GCN's* subscription and newsstand sales. Experience in marketing helpful. Full-time. Health insurance and paid vacation. Position open now, starting date flexible. Resumes and inquiries to: Cindy Patton, *GCN* 167 Tremont St. 5th Fl., Boston, MA 02111, (617) 426-4469.

## lianna

Dear Friends,

Thanks so much for your review of John Sayles' *Lianna*. I had the pleasure of seeing it here in a sneak preview a few weeks ago, and enjoyed it immensely. But my first reaction upon leaving the theatre was, "What would a lesbian think of it?" After all, it was about a woman falling in love with another woman, hardly a subject I have much knowledge of. Well, Cindy Rizzo answered it for me. Although her opinion is of course not every lesbian's opinion, still it gave me at least a clue as to how one gay woman's reaction would be.

I've seen *Return of the Secaucus Seven* a number of times (Sayles plays very well in Seattle), because for once an American movie showed me myself and my friends (my straight ones, that is). I couldn't quite identify with the characters though (guess why?), as a lot of the movie revolved around heterosexual love, affection, alienation, all things we have felt, of course, but Where Are The Queers? I don't accuse Mr. Sayles of ignorance of us, at all, especially now, after seeing *Lianna*.

I suppose the same "criticism" for *Return etc.* could conceivably apply to *Lianna* (i.e. where are the [male] queers?), but I might as well make my

## protect gay youth.

Dear *GCN*,

The gay community and its friends are outraged by the recent press coverage of the "man/-boy love" stories. The claim that a hated group represents a danger to children is one of the traditional ploys in the rhetoric of bigotry. The seemingly deliberate journalistic confusion between homosexuality and pedophilia carries on the tradition.

Homosexuality and pedophilia are not the same. Homosexuality is an orientation where the primary sexual, emotional, and affectional attractions are toward members of the same sex. Pedophilia is adult sexual attraction toward children. Ninety per cent of cases of sexual congress between an adult and a child involve an adult male and a female child. Yet we never see headlines trumpeting stories about "heterosexual kiddie porn rings" or "heterosexual sex clubs for adults and kids." Indeed, one conservative writer claimed that the seduction of an adolescent female by her male teacher, while reprehensible, was "fully natural."

The Institute for the Protection of Lesbian and Gay Youth is an organization within the gay community dedicated to addressing the problems of our young people. The New York City Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gay Men has similar interests. We have no hesitation in condemning any sexual involvement between an adult and a prepubescent child, male or female. Such involvement can only be harmful and children must be protected from adults who would so use them.

We do insist, however, that gay and lesbian adolescents must be considered within the context of teenage sexuality. Our society has never fully addressed the problems of young people who are

own movie to keep from eventually asking, "Where Are All The Semi-Tall, Red-Bearded, Ivy-League-Escapee Male White Former-Catholic Queer Rhode Islanders Making a Meager Niche For Themselves In The Pacific Northwest?" The point of this meandering being: Mr. Sayles has shown himself to be a sensitive observer/commenter of humankind; his insights are in short supply by those who Make Film, and I thank him for *Lianna*. Now if it could only get big play at the Park Forest Lake Plaza Eight suburban movie theatre mall complex cinamas, where Those Out There can see, yes, we can love, we can feel, we can make our own decisions and maybe see, yes, we, like they, are human.

Thanks, Cindy, for answering my question. Only one comment: you wondered about the kids, how does it work out for them? Well, it's *Lianna's* film. It was her life after the separation, she probably wondered about them too. Maybe John Sayles could make a film answering, "What about the children of lesbian mothers who leave?"

Sincerely,  
James Robert Labonte  
Seattle, WA

P.S. And a big smack to *GCN*.  
You're still my favorite news source.

sexually mature physically but have yet to learn how to manage their sexuality. For heterosexually oriented adolescents, problems center around inadequate sex education, peer pressure to have sex, venereal disease, and pregnancy. Gay youth have the same problems but face additional ones because of their need to hide. If their sexual orientation is discovered, they face humiliation, violence, and even possible expulsion from their families. The fear and isolation imposed on these young people and the lack of programs directed toward helping them with their problems make them prime targets for exploitation by adults.

Gay people do not differ from their heterosexual counterparts in a desire to nurture and protect children. Indeed, many gay people are themselves parents. It is insulting that gay people must take a public stand against child molestation. No one asks the heterosexually oriented to defend themselves in this way. The widespread acceptance of the traditional slander and the necessity for a public disclaimer exemplify the fear and hatred directed against gay people.

The gay community and its friends cannot allow the slanderous equation of homosexuality and pedophilia to remain unchallenged. But beyond responding to prejudicial accusations, we will continue to work to make lesbian and gay adolescents less prone to exploitation of any kind by trying to alleviate the fear and hatred that stigmatize and isolate them.

Emery S. Hetrick, M.D.  
President, Institute for the Protection of Lesbian and Gay Youth, Inc.  
Richard Ashworth  
President, New York City Parents of Lesbians and Gay Men, Inc.

*Gay Community News* welcomes letters to Community Voices. If at all possible, your letters should be TYPED AND DOUBLE SPACED and kept to three pages (or less!) in length. *GCN* publishes all the letters it receives, unedited, on a space-available basis, unless they contain personal attacks. Anonymous letters will not be published, but names will be withheld upon request. Address letters to: Community Voices, *Gay Community News*, 167 Tremont St., 5th Floor, Boston, MA 02111.

## JEWISH RESISTANCE TO THE NAZIS



This photo of Jewish resisters to the Nazis will be seen in a live production called "They Fought Back: Jewish Resistance to the Nazis 1939-1945" which will be presented at Morse Auditorium at Boston University on April 9-10. The show includes dramatic recreation of historical events; living musical performances of songs of resistance, both in Yiddish and English; and many unique historical slides. Many women from the local feminist community are involved in this production. Tickets available at New Words and Red Book, or by mail from: Lo Nish Kach, P.O. Box 327, New Town Branch, Boston, MA 02258. Tickets are \$5. Child care will be provided. The hall is wheelchair accessible (bathrooms are not); the April 9th show will be interpreted for the hearing impaired. For further information call: (617) 266-3880.

## Gay Community News

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# GCN: The First Ten Years

# Volume 2 1974-1975

Gay Community News was founded in 1973 by an ad hoc group of gay activists who were then meeting at the Charles Street Meetinghouse. This newsletter met a critical need in Boston's fledgling gay movement: communication between groups. When we could not talk together, did not know who was out there, we could not become an effective social and political force.

Many things have changed in the last ten years — at GCN, in the lesbian and gay community, and in the world at large. GCN has strived to stay abreast of those changes, and has often worked to make them happen. In this ten part series, we want to share some of the history of GCN, its role in Boston, and its relationship to the lesbian and gay movement in this country.

Summary of Volume 2 by Jil Clark and Jeremy Grainger

1975 was GCN staff member Nancy Wechsler's beginning year at the paper. Her first article on an upcoming Lesbian History conference in Los Angeles appeared in Volume 2, Number 32, February 1, 1975. She has been around the paper in many different capacities since then and continues to plug away as our typesetter and staff writer.

The big news in the first half of volume 2 was the successful campaign of lesbian Elaine Noble for a seat in the State House of Representatives. Noble was a heroine of many poor and old residents of Boston, and the pride and joy of thousands of lesbians and gay men, scores of whom worked as hard as she did in her campaign.

"Winning Noble" was the headline of the September 21 issue which reported that she had carried every precinct of her district (Suffolk Six) on primary night.

Thanking her volunteers (as her mother had done before her), Elaine stated that her win in the Suffolk Six Democratic Primary was "first, a victory for the neighborhood and secondly, for people's rights."

Two weeks after Noble's election, in the November 30 issue, GCN printed an article by Noble entitled, "Looking In," a self-revealing account of the "split" between lesbian and straight feminists in the early '70s and the sexism of gay men in that same era. It begins . . .

I am a woman; I am a Lesbian; I am a feminist. A simple enough statement to make in 1973; a statement acceptable and even praiseworthy in some quarters. To make it so publicly now belies the pain, fear, rejection and humiliation attached to that statement for the past four years . . . My "coming out" . . . 1968, and there I was, girl wonder. Advertising executive . . . well-coiffed, well-dressed, well-fed — and well-hidden . . .

Lesbians and gay male protest against homophobia in the media figure prominently in volume 2. In the July 6 issue, for example, Gay Media Action announced they had chosen the Boston Phoenix as the target of their annual Gay Media Zap. In the same issue, GCN reported that members of GMA and the Gay Speakers Bureau had met with six editors and writers of the Boston Globe in what they termed a "consciousness-raising session."

Protest against ABC's scheduled airing of a homophobic segment of "Marcus Welby, M.D." made front page news repeatedly in the fall. In the August 17 issue, GCN reported

that the National Gay Task Force had informed the network that the script of "The Outrage," which dealt with the rape of a 14-year-old boy by a male school teacher, was unacceptable to the gay community.

Also in volume 2, special news columns for most of the New England states, including "Mainline" and "Connect," first appeared.

Volume 2 Number 1

June 29, 1974

This appeared in "React," the letters column:

Gay Pride Week 1974 has begun! And like no other in the past a sense of community, a word that could be defined with a hundred different definitions, seems to represent what gay sisters and sisters, brothers and brothers, and sisters and brothers began feeling at the parade on Saturday. One woman in the crowd [of 1,000 gay New Englanders] commented, "I remember last year when this rag Gay Community News first appeared, my lover brought it home and showed it to me. My response was, what gay community? And now, today, I see it."

Volume 2 Number 3

July 13, 1974

The following appeared on Page 1:

AMAZON CONCERT

Conference 72: an Amazon Expedition is sponsoring a concert by Meg Christian, feminist singer-songwriter from Washington, D.C., this Friday, July 12, at the Charles St. Meetinghouse, corner of Charles & Mt. Vernon Sts. . . . Meg has recorded for Olivia Records, a Washington, D.C., based women's record company. A 45 rpm — on which she sings "Lady" — is available now, and a long-playing album is in the works now.

And:

NETWORKS TO INTERVIEW GAYS

The Boston gay community took a large step towards "legitimacy" in the eyes of mass media last week when representatives of a local broadcast group interviewed gay leaders on community problems and suggested solutions.



The "ascertainment" interviews were made by RKO General (WNAC-TV, WRKO, WROR-FM) as part of license renewal requirements listed by the Federal Communications Commission.

And this letter, entitled "transphobia," appeared on the letters page:

In this time of struggle against oppression, transsexuals are still being oppressed within the gay community . . .

The other week there was a concert presented by several women to raise funds for a Lesbian conference to be held this fall. One of my friends, a male-to-female transsexual, asked very discreetly and politely in advance if she could attend the event, which was billed as being by and for women. She was informed that if she attended a certain group would refuse to perform, because they "simply don't perform for men"

It is time for all gay people to come out against the op-

continued on page 7

## Speaking Out

## Join Us for Our Birthday

By Eric Rofes, for the GCN Board of Directors

In June, we will be celebrating GCN's 10th Birthday — the beginning of our second decade of publication. Since the summer of 1973, GCN has appeared each week on newsstands and in mailboxes across the nation.

We are planning to mark GCN's 10th Birthday in many exciting ways: documenting GCN's first decade through an oral history project, planning a large-scale promotions and fundraising campaign, preparing exciting features that review each of the ten volumes of GCN, and throwing a very special Birthday Party for the people who have produced GCN over the years and for the people who have read and supported the paper in its first decade. While we are planning on providing our readers with regular updates on this information over the next three months, there are several specific projects we'd like to tell you about now:

**GCN's 10th Birthday Party will be the largest potluck dinner ever!**

This central activity of our birthday is scheduled for Friday, June 17 at the YWCA Auditorium in Copley Square, Boston, the evening before Boston's Lesbian and Gay Pride March. This celebration will include a slide show of GCN history, photography displays, music and dancing, and presentations, as well as a chance to meet GCN staff members, volunteers and board members — past and present. Tickets will go on sale May 1 and each guest will be asked to bring a special dish for the dinner portion of the event.

We hope that many GCNers from outside the Boston area will come to town for this celebration and that activists, journalists and GCN readers from around the country will arrange to be in Boston for the party. In addition to the birthday party and the Pride March, GCN is planning a day of special events for activists and journalists who travel to Boston for the celebration. This will be an eventful weekend so make your plans now! Watch the paper for more details!

**GCN will be issuing a special 10th Birthday poster and tee-shirt.**

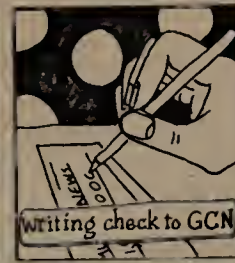
Our Art Department has been putting the final touches on the 10th Birthday poster and tee-shirt and, during April, the printing and packaging will take place. Watch the paper on May 1 when these limited-edition items go on sale.

**Our 1983 fundraising campaign will be launched soon.**

As we begin our second decade, it remains clear that GCN's independent voice providing weekly coverage of issues of concern to lesbians and gay men, necessitates the active financial support of our readers. As a special birthday present to GCN consider becoming a financial supporter of the paper: become a GCN Sustainer or make a special contribution to our upcoming birthday campaign. Again, watch the paper for more details in the coming weeks.

For these birthday events to be successful, we need the support and active involvement of our readers. Plan to attend the June 17 Birthday Party; Plan to make a financial contribution to our fundraising drive; Pass the word that GCN is ten years strong and recruit additional subscribers; And watch for exciting changes in GCN during the coming months.

It feels good to Sustain GCN, and you get a lot back from us. The pledge form below gives you details, and artist Jennifer Camper gives you some points of comparison. Sustaining GCN feels as good as . . .



This is our April Fool's issue, but there are some things we're not fooling about. One of them is GCN's need to grow bigger: we want to bring you 20 pages each week. Please consider joining GCN sustainers. This year, a quarterly pledge gets you more — and that's no joke.

### The 1983 Gay Community News Sustainer Program

Your pledge (minimum \$120 per year) brings you:

- a one year subscription to GCN
- the quarterly sustainer newsletter
- two introductory gift subs to give to your boss, relatives, ex-lovers, or friends
- a special invitation to the Second Annual Sustainer Party
- and the good feeling that comes with building a better paper and a stronger community.

☐ I want to feel good! Sign me on as a GCN Sustainer for the next 12 months.

☐ We/I pledge to make quarterly payments of:

\_\_\_\_\_ \$30 (\$120 annually)

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\*As with all GCN correspondence, your name will be kept strictly confidential unless you agree otherwise. May we publish your name in our quarterly newsletter? ☐ Yes ☐ No

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# Minnie Bruce Pratt: Southern Women Fight Racism

By Ann Holder

Minnie Bruce Pratt is a woman who speaks up, and in the act of speaking embodies a challenge to the conventions of the culture she comes from. Minnie Bruce Pratt is a white, southern lesbian. She is a poet, born and raised in Alabama, now living in North Carolina. For the last several years she has been doing research on the history of the Ku Klux Klan. On March 31 and April 1 she will be in Boston to read her poetry and speak on "Romance of Violence, Women and the Klan."

In a recent interview, she explained that the impetus for the research came from the 1979 murders of five Communist Workers Party members in Greensboro, NC. The subsequent trial led to acquittal of the Klansmen, even though their actions during the shooting were recorded on film and shown nationwide. In thinking about the history of Klan violence, in the aftermath of the shootings, she began to realize how many people, herself included, fall outside the Klan definition of acceptability into "the group defined as less than human — alien."

By taking up this work, Pratt

consciously positions herself within a long history of women who have resisted the terms of womanhood imposed by white, southern society. Women like Lillian Smith are part of a little-known but powerful tradition which rejected the rule of white supremacy and implicitly challenged the myth of white, southern womanhood. Pratt is now part of a five woman collective which publishes a journal called *Feminary* ("A Feminist Journal for the South Emphasizing Lesbian Visions"). The intention of the *Feminary* women is to deepen and enrich that historical legacy by making explicit connections between race, gender, sexuality and living in the South.

Pratt says that more than anything else, her work on the Klan has driven home a sense of the connectedness between many different forms of oppression. The Klan, she says, "is very consistent in their analysis of who is to be protected and who is to be thrown out . . . We have a lot to learn about our organizing from the recognition [that] as an ideology it makes a whole lot of connections between

continued on page 10



Minnie Bruce Pratt will read on March 31 at New Words in Cambridge and lecture April 1 at UMass downtown Boston.

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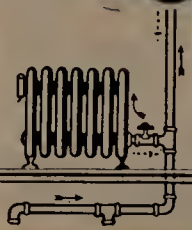
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# Volume 2, 1974-5

Continued from page 5

pression of transsexual and intersexual people, and to affirm a vision of liberation beyond the rigid patriarchal definitions of sex and gender. Until the lesbian movement takes an uncompromising stand on this issue, it can be revolutionary of Amazonian only in the most Pickwickian sense.

GCN's hound on Beacon Hill, David Brill, now deceased, had already begun sniffing around the capitol and "Talking Politics," as his column in GCN was called. After having had the "distinct honor" of attending a private reception of gubernatorial candidate Mike Dukakis, he wrote:

Realism is often not a very tasteful subject to many people. To the people in South Boston it means integration, to President Nixon it means his Gallup unfavorability rating, and to gay people it means the tiny, albeit potentially explosive, spot that the issue of gay rights occupies in state politics. We would all like to see Mike Dukakis call a press conference tomorrow at the Parker House and give a two-hour speech on the rights of homosexuals, but by the same token, I think we would also like to see him elected governor . . . .

Numerous readers wrote letters of protest to the president of Jordan Marsh department store after GCN got wind of on-going entrapment of gay men in the lavatories there. This man asked to have his letter reprinted in "REACT":

Sir: Enclosed is my current J-M payment, and the remains of my credit card.

A young friend was recently apprehended in one of the men's rooms of your store and turned over to the police.

Admittedly, it was a stupid act on his part. However, this boy, a student, now faces life with an arrest record, and public degradation for a moment of folly . . . .

Is this what Jordan Marsh wants? If so, I don't want to do business with you. This is going to inconvenience me more than it does you; I don't know where else to buy Boy Scout articles for my sons. But I'll find a store.

For shame, Jordan Marsh!



From childhood's hour  
I have not been  
as others were—  
I have not seen  
as others saw...

E. A. Poe



Reprinted by Gay Media Action,  
under the auspices of the  
Charles Street Universal Church.

Lavender Rhino ad December 3 to January 2.



Come out, Come out  
Wherever you are.

Sponsored by Gay Media Action,  
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Rhinos appeared in graphics and photographs throughout GCN's second year. Rhinos? That's right! The rhinoceros — a lavender colored one, of course — was picked as a mascot/symbol for lesbians and gay men by Gay Media Action-Advertising (GMA-A) as part of a subway advertising campaign. The rhinoceros was chosen according to GMA-A member Bernie Toal because, "The rhino is a much maligned and misunderstood animal and in actuality is a gentle creature — but don't cross him or her! The color lavender a mixture of pink and blue expresses the merger of feminine and masculine qualities into one: the human quality." (Vol. 2, No. 24).

GMA-A had over nine months delay and legal difficulties in getting the right to place the ad on the "T", December 7, 1974's (Vol. 2, No. 24) issue carried a lead story announcing that campaign would begin December 1. The billboard series is pictured above.

## Volume 2, Number 6

### SAINTS-ACT AGAINST AGGRESSION

The Saints, Boston's bar for women, was momentarily under siege last Wednesday night. Two black men armed with a pistol and shotgun entered the bar near 12:15 a.m. The man with the shotgun stood at the entrance as his ac-

August 3, 1974

complice went behind the bar and held a gun to the bartender's head. The woman tending the bar responded, "Get the fuck out from behind the bar." At this point the man stated his purpose, "Okay bitch, just do what I tell you, and get the money together."

continued on page 8

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# Volume 2, 1974-5

Continued from page 7

... On Friday, July 25 a woman leaving the bar was jumped from behind by a "would be" robber, as she tried to enter her car. A well-placed kick enabled her to break away from her assailant. At this point, she retaliated with a pipe, kept in her car to aid in self-defense. As the woman was able to take control in this encounter, the man fled. Once in safe surroundings she immediately called the bar in order that other women (would) be made aware of her experience and the necessity of their own caution upon leaving the bar.

## Volume 2 Number 7 August 10, 1974

This week contributions to support the paper reached \$3,050 — \$50 beyond the staff's projected needs. Loans were still lagging below the \$3000 quota. Imagine: they used to produce this rag for \$6000 yearly! . . . Well, not quite. \$6000 didn't quite cut it, as we learn in issue number 22:

Right now the *Gay Community News* is in serious difficulty and we, the human beings who make up this paper, need your assistance . . .

If you check the classified ads this week under Jobs Offered, you'll notice 3 or 4 positions on the staff of the paper are open. We want you to know why. Since we have not said otherwise before, we know that many people in the community think that "paid" staff members are making a comfortable, or at least acceptable, salary on which to live. It depends on the definition of "acceptable," but we feel that most of you eat more than a bag of potato chips, or a bowl of soup each day; that most people have not had their phones or their gas turned off because of inability to pay their bills.

In effect, by giving up most of their \$60/week salaries in order to be able to pay the bills of the newspaper, the staff has loaned this paper more than \$1000 a month for several consecutive months.

No one asked us to start this newspaper, you know. But it appears to us that people want it now that it exists . . .

... Do you care enough about it to spend the 25¢ when you're in the bar drinking several dollars away, rather than reading it there and tossing it back or worse, taking it with you and just "forgetting" to put your quarter in the box? . . .

Also in that issue, the staff ran a half page ad for a GCN sponsored [cruise] to St. Thomas and San Juan.

## Volume 2, Number 9 August 24, 1974

### A.T. & T. BARS DISCRIMINATION.

Also in that issue:

### LOEB BLOW FROM QUEEN CITY

The *Manchester Union Leader*, New Hampshire's largest newspaper and bastion for all that is good for America, struck again on Monday morning, August 5, with a front-page story concerning the "Sodomite Clubs" in Manchester. Headlines read "Shameful Behavior in Queen City Exposed" and "Homosexual Clubs Lure Unsuspecting Youth" along with other examples of unbiased reporting.

## Volume 2 Number 11 September 7, 1974

GCN staffer John Kyper made the news headlines in this issue. He was turned away from the Canadian border at Niagara Falls by Canadian Immigration officials when he produced copies of GCN which he was taking to friends at The Body Politic.

## Volume 2 Number 13 September 21, 1974

### Lesbianism: A Political, Cultural, Personal View

### MULTIPLE RELATIONSHIPS

... Here we come to the most serious and draining personal problem that arises among women in the movement (at least among us here in Boston) — that of multiple relationships . . . Most of us believe that monogamous relationships are stifling to our full human development and that the intense one-to-one exclusivity fostered by the nuclear family thwarts development.

One of the most stifling aspects of monogamous gay relationships is that even more than in heterosexual relationships monogamy isolates the partners from other women . . .

The family which perpetuates the state perpetuates itself through the philosophy of monogamy . . .

The success of multiple relationships will depend on a new generation of people — like the generation who founded the kibbutzim — who are devoted to a particular philosophical bias — the bias away from exclusivity and property rights.

## Volume 2 Number 20 November 9, 1974

### GAY SEX NOW LEGAL?

The Massachusetts Supreme Court ruled Nov. 2nd that a state law prohibiting all "unnatural and lascivious" sexual acts does not apply to those acts performed in private, by consenting adults.

and . . .

### LANDMARK DECISION FOR LESBIAN FAMILY

Two Seattle Lesbian women involved in a custody suit for their children recently received a reverse decision from a Washington State Court. Madeline Issacson and Sandra Shuster no longer are bound by an earlier court order requiring them to reside "separate and apart." Judge Norman B. Ackley declared, "This is not to be considered a landmark case for homosexual rights," but it certainly seems to be.

## Volume 2 Number 21 November 16-1974

A front page headline announced that a police recruit had been fired by Police Commissioner DiGrazia for being in the company of an admitted homosexual. To this, a Mr. Broderick, chairperson of the Boston Patrolman's Association angrily responded:

"Many of us in the police department are in the company

of homosexuals daily, or have relatives who are homosexuals. Does that mean we have to separate ourselves from our relatives or refuse to see our friends: If I have to talk to Rep. Elaine Noble, an admitted homosexual, do I have to worry about being brought up on charges?"

The first news note also appeared in this issue:

### GERMAN SURGEONS EXPERIMENT TO HALT HOMOSEXUALITY

## Volume 2 Number 22 & 23 November 23 & 30, 1974

The following "feminist issue" made it into GCN, albeit in the classified section:

### FREE INEZ GARCIA

This woman is now serving 5 years to life for killing one of the 2 men who raped her. We must work to free Inez, and to make the public realize the way women who are raped are treated by our society and courts. Rape is not sex; it is violence. The perpetrators of such violence must be dealt with, not the woman who is raped.



## Volume 2, Number 26 December 21, 1974

A small box entitled "Gayrilla Theatre" carried a special promotional message: "Read GCN at the bus stop." Later issues contained ideas for similar "Gayrilla Theatre" skits: "Make out in the supermarket," "Come out on Tuesday just like the GCN," "Kiss the postperson for bringing your paper on time," "Give your hometown library a GCN subscription and then read it in the reading room."

## Volume 2 Number 27 December 28, 1974

The lead story:

### BREAK—INS AT GAY OFFICES

"Three more gay offices were burglarized last week, bringing to four the number of offices that have been broken into in the past weeks.

"The latest targets were the *Gay Community News*, the Daughters of Bilitis and the Homophile Union of Boston, all of which were broken into sometime Tuesday, Dec 17 . . .

A week earlier the offices of Rep. Elaine Noble were burglarized. Burglars made off with over \$500 worth of Christmas toys. However, these break-ins got less than twenty dollars for their efforts.

## Volume 2, Number 28 January 4, 1975

The lead story was headlined:

### WOMEN CONFRONT GAY RIGHTS CONGRESS

The story carried news from the First International Gay Rights Congress held in Edinburgh, Scotland. "Organizers largely ignored women in the planning stages and throughout and placed them in a secondary position in the Congress . . ." said the article written by Ann Maguire. Though many women had already boycotted the conference, those in attendance caucused and organized to make the issue of sexism the major focus of the Congress.

## Volume 2, Number 31 January 25, 1975

Allan Stewart's column "Speaking for Myself" was entitled: S&M IS THE GAY WORLD'S BASTARD

For most gays, sadomasochism conjures up an image of degenerate reprobates, bastard stepchildren whose illegitimacy and weird behavior makes them unfit company. Later the column makes suggestions for gay men getting into S&M:

It takes time for you to feel each other out, so each session will be a little more together, a little better, a little heavier . . .

First of all, resign yourself to being a bottomman for a while; it's the best way to learn. A good bottomman controls most of the action anyway. You may end up, after getting some experience, deciding that you'd rather be a topman, but at least you'll know how it feels to the other person.

Also in the news, "gays and straights" continued their support for the United Farm Workers' boycott of Gallo wines. One picketer interviewed outside a Beacon Hill liquor store put it this way: "I don't see how anyone could by (sic) the stuff — especially not gays. We know what economic exploitation means."

And there was this news note:

GCN finally received their second class mailing permit. This means the newspaper will be stamped "Of time value—Newspaper—Rush." And it will, therefore, be delivered right away.

(Now, who was this news writer trying to kid?)

## Volume 2, Number 24 February 15, 1975

### OKAY TO BE GAY

... the American Psychological Association voted to remove "homosexuality" from its official list of mental disorders.

In taking this action . . . the APA supported the declassification of "homosexuality" as a "sickness" made by the more prestigious American Psychiatric Association in December 1973.

A questionnaire which appears on page 3 of the same issue has been clipped from our office copy of this back issue . . . if you've got this issue at home send us a copy of that questionnaire so that we can figure out what we were

asking people in February of 1975.

## Volume 2 Number 36 March 1, 1975

### GRAND JURY PRESSURES LESBIAN FEMINISTS

In what was to become one of the most significant stories of this year, GCN's front page headlined the grand jury investigation of two New Haven lesbian feminists Ellen Grusse and Terry Turgeon. The pair had been found in contempt after refusing to testify about their connections to FBI fugitives and lesbians anti-war activists Kathy Power and Susan Saxe.

Turgeon told GCN she believed their case to be "an abuse of the grand jury." "Supposedly the FBI is looking for the fugitives, but this gives them a chance to find out about all people in the gay community," she said.

## Volume 2, Number 37 March 8, 1975

### GCN COMES OUT

It's bigger, better (we hope) and it has color.

With this lavender-hued issue GCN began a larger print

Things are changing.

Gay people are not invisible anymore;

but then again,  
we never really were.

Sponsored by Gay Media Action,  
under the auspices of the

run and started to be commercially distributed to "newsstands, bookstores, and other business places."

The New England sky's the limit.

This issue contained a special 8-page arts section and an article written by David Brill entitled: "Fatpersons, Unite!":

For the fatties, there is one goal: Unite. When the skinny world sees that we have all the political power that we say we do, they will be forced to meet our demands . . . only then will the nation's "heavies" be able to show their weight, and prove what seems to be society's most discriminated-against minority is also its largest minority.

Grand Jury investigations of the gay community continued to be important stories. On March 15, the two New Haven women were jailed for contempt of the grand jury (Number 38). The following issue's lead story also focused on grand jury abuse. Six people in Lexington, Kentucky were jailed for refusing to testify about Saxe and Power.

## Volume 2, Number 40 March 29, 1975

The centerspread:

### DRAG: A PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND POLITICAL LIBERATION

For the individual doing drag, it can be a very liberating experience and for some, the realization of a long-held wish. For me, it strengthened my gay-identified living as much as a public kiss from another man does. There is, in addition, a defiance of the role society has attached to my penis, my maleness.

... Choose time and place carefully to appear in drag and it can be a political force.

## Volume 2 Number 43 April 19, 1975

### EDITORIAL

Susan Saxe busted . . . (lead story previous issue) Suddenly the eyes of the world are focused on lesbian communities. We feel that the coverage of the case by GCN is important because we can provide a forum . . . to speak to an issue that so directly affects us all.

Many people feel that Susan Saxe is a revolutionary hero, that her acts were acts of heroism and that all gay people should support her. Others feel that she is damaging . . .

... the person caught up in such investigation can be innocent of all crime one moment and a criminal the next, merely for exercising her/his rights to refuse to incriminate

HELP!!  
I'm stranded  
at the GCN office.  
Marge Fester  
Feature Editor  
2:00 a.m. EST - Oct. 7, 1974

herself/himself.

GCN feels that this is misuse of the grand jury and voices its support of the women in jail now, those that may be jailed in the future and all citizens who have suffered in this way.

## Volume 2 Number 50 June 7, 1975

### EDITORIAL

It's hard to believe it, but GCN is on the eve of its second birthday!

We would like to pass on to you the decisions that we made as a result of community input . . . We may have begun as a "movement" paper with a political axe to grind, but we soon realized that all gay people needed a newspaper . . . We are trying to do something for everyone and, you know, you can't please all the people all the time . . .



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**TUESDAY**  
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**WEDNESDAY**  
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**THURSDAY**  
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CASH PRIZES  
starting April 7  
8pm-2am

**FRIDAY**  
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till 10pm  
8pm-2am

**SATURDAY**  
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**SUNDAY**  
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## Minnie Bruce Pratt

Continued from page 6

different oppressions."

The violence and rhetoric of the Klan has primarily been associated with attacks on black people and other people of color. Yet, as Pratt points out, shooting targets at paramilitary Klan training camps are also identified as Jew, homosexual, communist, union organizer, Catholic. This diversity demonstrates the historical consistency of the Klan opposition to *all* who are defined by the them as different or other, as well as reflecting the need for an organizing strategy which stresses connections.

Klan hatred of homosexuals has very clear origins in the early Klan ideals of "purity" and attacks on "perversity." The Klan constituted itself as a guardian of public morality especially in "protecting" white womanhood. The lynching of black men for alleged sexual crimes was accompanied by the beating or tar-and-feathering of white women for "loose" sexual conduct and the beating and lynching of white men for "perversity." The rape of black women was used by the Klan as an instrument of terror against the black community. The Klan ideals of sexual and racial purity formed a complex tangle which is still evident in Klan literature and activity today.

To Pratt, the practical work of organizing against such a complicated and pervasive range of hatred includes "the difficulty of bringing all the pieces together." So when she speaks to audiences about the Klan, she does so as a feminist and a lesbian. She insists on making the connections between all the

groups under attack by the Klan. While this is not always easy, or even something audiences want to hear, Pratt sees it as essential to "understanding what the Klan says about hatred and violence in our culture." She has learned the political and personal necessity of "not denying your own oppression." One of the most important things to do, she said, is to "speak up for what would happen to me and to be clear about asking other people to acknowledge that."

As Pratt believes that Klan ideology exemplifies and is reflected in the oppressive aspects of the culture, she also believes that the response to that ideology must "cope with the realities of people's lives . . . must deal with (the question of) multiple identity." The necessity to be "out" is a refusal to let "issues get disconnected depending on who you're talking to." The question is "how you acknowledge differences" without collapsing the contradiction that different people experience their oppression differently.

Pratt also mentions the slogan, current in some anti-Klan literature, "Zionism and the Klan go hand in hand." That is an example, she says, of "how anti-Klan organizing can *not* promote solidarity." By reducing the complicated history of Zionism to a white, separatist movement, the slogan only succeeds in driving wedges between organizations, dividing people from each other and cutting off dialogue.

The other part of this work which has been important to Minnie Bruce Pratt is the belief that you have a lot to learn from a critical inquiry into your own culture. Confronting the mythology of white southern womanhood was essential to understanding Klan ritual and ideology. This in turn raised questions of what was known and what was hidden, what were truths and what were myths about southern culture.

As an example of truths that remain hidden, Pratt recounted the lynching of a black man in her "own hometown, during my grandparents' lifetime, while my grandfather was practicing law in that town," and explained she had not even known until reading Ida B. Wells' detailed records on southern lynchings that it had, in

fact, occurred. "I learned a whole lot about my own culture and what that culture has done to other people, and to me too, but especially to other people, and what I learned gave me nightmares . . ."

In this context, Pratt mentions the refusal to "succumb to despair" and differentiates despair from guilt, because "despair is when you *know*, not just know a little to sweep under the rug and run away, but when you really know." To counteract the despair, "the work has to be very active," to create something new "within ourselves, and also exteriorly, but which can't deny who we are." Pratt recognizes the reality of different backgrounds and sees the need to discover "what you can glean from digging out the truths about where you're from." Only once that is accomplished, once we begin to understand the material context which impacts on us with its own culturally specific twists and meanings can we broaden our understanding through "interaction to see how we all learned things differently."

Pratt says her discussion of the Klan will not be as much a "nuts and bolts" organizing talk as a presentation of information for people to take back and use as they can in the work they do. Hopefully, the result will be people who, like Minnie Bruce Pratt, speak up, for themselves and each other, refusing to deny their own background but demanding interventions toward "a multi-cultural society which acknowledges and affirms all the pieces of a person's identity."

On Thursday, March 31, at 7:00 p.m., Minnie Bruce Pratt will read from a book of poetry now in progress, tentatively titled *Walking Back Up Depot Street*. On Friday, April 1, at 7:30 p.m. she will give a talk on women and the Klan. The poetry reading will be in the basement of New Words Bookstore, 186 Hampshire St., Cambridge. The lecture will be in the UMass building at 100 Arlington St., room 222, Boston. Copies of her first book *The Sound of One Fork and current issues of Feminary2* are available at New Words, Glad Day and other bookstores.

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# Calendar

## weekly events

### sunday

**Boston, MA** — Boston Alliance of Gay and Lesbian Youth (BAGLY) drop-in center for youth 22 and under from 3:30-5pm at Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St. (Beacon Hill). Info: 497-8282. Please send all BAGLY mail to GCN, Box 1093.

**Cambridge, MA** — Black and White Men Together Second Sunday of each month. Info: Te 36-3392 or Dick 247-3043

**Cambridge, MA** — Overeaters Anonymous meeting. Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass Ave. Sun eves 7:30 pm. Info: Te 36-3392 or Dick 247-3043

**Framingham, MA** — Titicounty Assoc. (Framingham, Milford, Franklin area). Social and support group for gay and lesbian community teens. Info: 378-4323 or 473-3529.

**Boston, MA** — "Musically speaking" women's music. Ideas, announcements. WMBR, 88.1 FM, 1:30pm. Info: Te 36-3392 or Dick 247-3043

**Boston, MA** — Gay and Lesbian physicians of New England. Second Sundays. 2pm. Info: (617) 482-8874 or 247-3483

**Boston, MA** — Merrymount Music Society. Informal meetings and concerts for gay and lesbian musicians and music lovers. Info: 266-9423

**Boston, MA** — "Sharing Voices," a monthly potluck, supper and open reading for all women who write. First Thurs. Caudron Experimental Theater, 22 Randolph St. (near Dover T Stop). 5pm. Info: 342-8575

**Boston, MA** — Boston's Other Voice. (WROB, FM 94.5) 11:30pm. Info: Te 36-3392 or Dick 247-3043

**Oxford, ME** — Wide-Stein Club. Social/support group for lesbians and gay men. Informal, friendly and open meetings. Peabody Lounge, 3rd fl. Memorial Union. UMO 7pm.

**Northern VT/NH** — League of Gays (LOGS) meets third Thurs. Info: (802) 626-3618 or write Box 703, St. Johnsbury VT 05819.

**Concord, NH** — Concord Area Gay Youth, support group for youth 16-22. rap session, and social time. Carpools & counseling available. Info: Scott or Joe 224-6931

**Keene, NH** — Potlucks and other fun get-togethers for lesbians. First Thurs (2pm) and third Tues or Wed (6pm). Info: Keene Kion-dykes, Box 261, Gilsun NH 03448

**Central VT** — Central Vermont Gay Men (CVGM) meets first Sun. of the month for socializing, business and a meal. Info: Box 42, Barre 05641

**Orono, ME** — Wide-Stein Club. Social/support group for lesbians and gay men. Informal, friendly and open meetings. Peabody Lounge, 3rd fl. Memorial Union. UMO 7pm.

**Northern VT/NH** — League of Gays (LOGS) meets third Thurs. Info: (802) 626-3618 or write Box 703, St. Johnsbury VT 05819.

**Boston, MA** — Dignity/Boston Lesbian and Gay Catholics and friends meets for mass every Sun. at 5:30pm. Parish Hall, Arlington St. Church, corner Arlington and Boylston. Info: 338-6578.

**Boston, MA** — Dignity/Boston Holy Week services. Info: 536-6578.

### mar 30 wed

**Boston, MA** — Essentially Women Coffeehouse presents a Spring Square Dance for women and their friends. Bring cloth-pots and a friend. 7:30pm. Church of the Covenant, Newbury and Berkeley Sts. Donation \$4

The deadline for Calendar items is Monday at noon for the following issue.....

**New London, CT** — Gay and Lesbian Community at Connecticut College meets 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. Info: 442-7458

### monday

**Boston, MA** — Boston Lesbian and Gay Pride Coalition has set for 1983. The 4th and 5th meetings of each month. Meeting at the Boston Evening Clinic, 314 Comm Ave (corner of Harvard) 7pm. All are welcome.

**Waltham, MA** — Triskellion, the Brandeis Gay/Lesbian Coalition. General discussion group at 9pm. Usdan Student Ctr. Conf. Rm. C. Info: 647-4353, or Box 2792, Brandeis U., Waltham, 02254.

**Nashua, NH** — Nashua Area Gays meet 8pm. Info: Tony 424-3252, or write: Nashua Area Gays, Box 3472, Nashua 03061.

**Portsmouth, NH** — Seacoast Gay Men, 7pm. Info: P.O. Box 1394, Portsmouth 03801.

### tuesday

**Cambridge, MA** — Boston chapter, Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays meets 1st Tue. of the month in the Commons room 1A. Sheraton Hotel, 100 Mt. Vernon St. Info: 552-1111 or 552-1111

**Cambridge, MA** — Lesbian SM support group. Every Tues. 7:30pm. Info: 778-7957. Open to lesbians supportive of or into SM.

**Boston, MA** — Urania: lesbian and bisexual women's SM support group. Safe, non-comm. petitive space for women of all levels of experience to share political and personal aspects of their sexuality. 131 Cambridge St. 7:30pm. Info: Hattori 623-7258.

**Cambridge, MA** — Daughters of Billis. Discussion and social group. Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave. (Har. Sq.) 8pm. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Info: 661-3633

**Pittsfield, MA** — Berkshire County Gay Coalition meets 2nd and 4th Tues. Info: (413) 442-7772

**Hartford, CT** — Greater Hartford Lesbian and Gay Task Force meets at Hill Ctr., 350 Farmington Ave. 7pm (first Tues.) Info: 249-7591

**Manchester, NH** — Manchester Men's Group, weekly support group for gay and bisexual men, meet Tuesdays at 7:30pm for coffee and discussion. Info: Jack 669-0096.

**New London, CT** — New London Gay Men's Forum, support group for gay and bisexual men. Info: 447-0155 (Nylon to 7pm).

**Portland, ME** — Gay/Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous meeting at First Parish, Unitarian, 425 Congress St. 8 pm. Open to all.

**Braintree, VT** — Southern Vermont Lesbian and Gay Men's Coalition meets on the second Tuesday of the month at the Common Ground Restaurant, 25 Elliot St. 7:30pm.

### wednesday

**Boston, MA** — Fathers in Transition, a group of gay/fathers meeting Weds. for friendship and support. Info: Exodus Ctr., 286-0612, or write: Fathers in Transition, c/o GCN Box 6, 167 Tremont St., Boston, MA 02111.

**Cambridge, MA** — The Women's Center Informal weekly discussion group. This week's topic is mothers and daughters. 46 Pleasant St. 8pm. Info: 354-8807.

### 31 thurs

**Boston, MA** — GCN Proofreading. See the news before it hits the page! Call 426-4469 for info on afternoon and evening proofreading.

**Cambridge, MA** — New Words Bookstore presents Minnie Bruce Pratt, author of *The Sound of One Fork*, reading from her work. 7:30pm, 186 Hampshire St. Info: 876-5310. Donation \$2.

**Boston, MA** — Open meeting for women in Boston interested in the Women's Peace Encampment planned for this summer. Harriet Tubman House, 566 Columbus Ave. (corner of Mass Ave.) Info: Resist, 623-5110 (days) or Suzanne 524-4199 (eves).

### apr 1 fri

**Boston, MA** — GCN VOLUNTEER NIGHT! Come, help send out the paper to our subscribers. Refreshments and good times. And now finally an intercom at our demonstrators' door so you don't have to call before you get here. Come anytime after 6pm to our space at 167 Tremont St. (Near Boylston T stop).

**Boston, MA** — Boston Alliance of Gay and Lesbian Youth (BAGLY). New persons' meeting 8:30pm; general meeting and group discussion 7:30pm. For Youth 22 and under Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St. (Beacon Hill) Info: 497-8282.

**Boston, MA** — Boston Gay Men's Chorus meets every Wed from 7-10pm at the YMCA, 140 Clarendon St. (So. End). Info: 625-3241

**Boston, MA** — Walk-in VD screening and treatment for and by gay men. 6:30-8pm. Fenway Community Health Center, 16 Harvard St. (near Auditorium stop) 267-7573

**Boston, MA** — Luncheon for lesbians. Scheduled during the workday downtown. Interested in lunchtime hangout/discussion group? Come to 80 Boylston St. Rm 855 (corner Boylston and Tremont). Noon. Info: 542-5158

**Boston, MA** — Lesbian and Gay Media Advocates (LAGMA) meeting 7:30-9:30pm. New members welcome. Help make the media more responsive to our needs. Info: 542-3579.

**Bridgewater, MA** — South Shore Gay and Lesbian Alliance meets Weds. Info: 584-4897

**Cambridge, MA** — Lesbian "coming out" group, new weekly open rap group. Is now meeting at Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. (Central Sq.) 8:10pm. Info: 354-8807

**Cambridge, MA** — Daughters of Billis. 35+ women's discussion and social group. Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave. 8pm. Second Wed. and last Fri. of each month.

**Hyannis, MA** — Lesbian Support Group meets 1st Wed. of every month 7:30pm. New members welcome. Orientation, social meetings. Warren Women's Center, 298 Main St. Info: 771-6739

**Nashua, NH** — Greater Nashua Area of NH Lambda sponsors speakers and/or raps on the 2nd Wed. and 4th Thurs 7:30pm. Business meets on 1st Sat. Info: (603) 889-1416

**Hartford, CT** — Lesbian AA meeting Hill Ctr., 350 Farmington Ave. 8pm. Info: (203) 232-9737 or 42-8203

**Hampden County, MA** — Social/Support Group for Lesbians. 8pm. Info: Debbie 532-5878 or Julie 532-4959

**Cambridge, MA** — Narcotics Anonymous (N.A.) Meeting. 7 Temple St. (Central Sq.) 8:30—10pm. A twelve step recovery program for those whose "drug of choice" was other than alcohol.

**Cambridge, MA** — Boston National Organization for Women (NOW) Lesbian Rights Task Force meets 4th Wed. of month at 99 Bishop Allen Dr. (Central Sq.) Plan lobbying, public educ. and consciousness raising. Info: 661-6015.

### thursday

**Cambridge, MA** — Lesbian Liberation, an open discussion group. 8-10pm. Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Info: 354-8807.

**Somerville, MA** — TVTS Peer Support Group Gender Clinic. Info: Martha 666-8280

**Cambridge, MA** — Lesbians with children Support group. 8-10pm. Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. 354-8807.

**Weston, MA** — Children M. Club Easter Weekend Ski Trip. Info: John 864-0823

**Boston, MA** — Minnie Bruce Pratt, Southern political activist, poet, and editor will speak on the "Romance of Violence" — Women and the Ku Klux Klan at 100 Arlington St. (UMass Boston, Park Square), 7:30pm. Room 222. FREE! Her presentation will explore the connections between hatred of blacks, women, Jews and homosexuals.

**Boston, MA** — "The Calling: A Woman's Rite of Passage and Initiation," by Justine Lewis. Caudron Experimental Theater, 22 Randolph St. (near Dover T stop, off Harrison Ave.) Donigh and Sat. eve at 8:30pm. Info: 542-8575. Donation \$5.

### 2 sat

**Boston, MA** — Caudron Experimental Theater. "The Calling: A Woman's Rite of Passage and Initiation." See apr. 1 fri above.

### 3 sun

**Cambridge, MA** — Yes, Lesbian and Gay Folkdancing is really happening: sorry about last time. Phillips Brooks House, Harvard Ave. 1:30-3:30pm. Beginners welcome. Info: Dee 661-7223.

**Northampton, MA** — Allevi in concert at Sage Hall, Smith College. 8pm. Info: (413) 534-7956.

**Northampton, MA** — Pioneer Valley People's Gay Alliance meets on first and third Thursdays at the Unitarian Society, 220 Main St. 7:30pm. Info: (413) 584-7903 or write P.O. Box 181, Northampton, MA 01061.

### friday

**Boston, MA** — GAY COMMUNITY NEWS (THAT'S US!) ALWAYS NEEDS HELP EVENING OUT THE PAPER ON FRIDAY EVENING. COME BY FOR A FEW HOURS TO OUR NEW SPACE AT 187 TREMONT (ON THE CORNER OF MON. NEAR BOYLSTON T STOP). ANYTIME AFTER 6 AND LEND A HAND. REFRESHMENTS AND GOOD TIMES! EVERY BODY WELL COME! INFO: 426-4469, THANKS!

**Cambridge, MA** — Amazon Lesbian Alliance. Meet at Hosp. Living Rm, Clark Bldg. 8:30pm. Newcomer's meeting from 7:30pm on the first Friday.

**Danbury, CT** — The Gay and Lesbian Alliance of Greater Danbury meets on Fridays from 7:30 to 10pm in the Green Room of the First Congregational Church, corner of Deer Hill Ave. and West St.

**Hartford, CT** — Your Turf, a weekly drop-in center for lesbian and gay teenagers 7:30pm at the Hill Center, 350 Farmington Ave. (upstairs). Sponsored by the Coalition of Sexual Minorities

**Pittsfield, MA** — Weekly meetings of Lesbians United. Info: Women's Services center, 499-2425

**Concord, NH** — Concord's Men's Group meets Fridays at 7:30pm for coffee and discussion. 67 Thordike St. Info: Joe 224-6931.

**Providence, RI** — Rhode Island Gay and Lesbian Youth meets every Sat. from 1:5pm for youth 14-21 years of age. Info: MCC 272-9247 or Gay Hello Line 751-3322 (eves).

### saturday

**Providence, RI** — Rhode Island Gay and Lesbian Youth meets every Sat. from 1:5pm for youth 14-21 years of age. Info: MCC 272-9247 or Gay Hello Line 751-3322 (eves).

**Boston, MA** — Chiltern Mt. Club. Regularly scheduled sports and outdoors events. General info: John 275-1336; Linda 734-4066; Lynn 864-0823. Volleyball: Jay 262-4896; skeeball: Kieran 232-7229.

**Boston, MA** — Front Runners/Boston, gay men and lesbian running club. Info: 39 Milford, Boston 02118 or 451-6366.



### 4 mon

**Boston, MA** — The Boston Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee will be holding a general meeting/Committees forming to organize the June 1983 Boston celebration. All New England welcome! Boston Evening Clinic, 314 Commonwealth Ave. (near Auditorium T stop). 7pm. Info: 262-4777.

**Boston, MA** — GCN general membership meeting. Last meeting we began a discussion of what GCN's role in the community should be, and will continue that discussion at this meeting. 167 Tremont St. 6:30pm.

### 8 fri

**Cambridge, MA** — Gays at MIT is having its Spring Dance 8pm-1am. Sala de Puerto Rico, MIT Student Center, 64 Mass Ave. All college students and their guests are welcome. \$2 with college ID, \$5 without. Info: GAYMIT 253-5440

**Boston, MA** — Caudron Experimental Theater presents "The Calling: A Woman's Rite of Passage and Initiation." See apr. 1 fri above.

**Danbury, CT** — Gay and Lesbian Alliance of Greater Danbury weekly meeting in the Green Room of the First Congregational Church of Danbury, corner of Deer Hill Ave. and West St. This week's topic is "The Good News, second installment" on sexually transmitted diseases. 7:30-10pm.

-Minnie Bruce Pratt:



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**Gay Community News**  
THE WEEKLY FOR LESBIANS AND GAY MALES  
BIPAD: 65498

Southern Women Fight Racism



## M & M: Should I Stay Or Go?

Candy Pate, a former m & m lesbian, has recently left the m & m community of Sun Francesca to move to Boston where she is organizing a support group for women who have become bored with discussing or practicing m & m sex. In her recent book she said, "After you've said and done all there is to say and do, there's not much left but to move back East." GCN's Nancy Wchsschshlr, long-time sex beat writer interviews Pate in her lovely new Cambridge collective household (vegetarian, non-smoking, still seeking 2 of same).

By Nancy Wchsschshlr

NW: What exactly is m & m sex?

CP: Well, Nancy, it's really hard to talk about m & m sex. To some women it's one thing, to others it's exactly the opposite.

NW: You mentioned that you are going to start a support group . . .

CP: Well, Nancy, it's really hard to talk about that. The most common reason for leaving m & m is sheer exhaustion. So, its hard to find a meeting time because most of us would rather sleep.

NW: This is a polarized community and we need to know where you stand, or lie down, as the case may be, how often, and with whom. It's important for you to define yourself with as many labels as possible.

CP: Well, Nancy, that's really hard. I also feel that labels — even ones that completely obscure the real issues — are extremely important. Given that I've moved here from a community where anything goes, I'd say that I'll do anything that does not require much exertion or keep me up later than 11:00 on weekends. I've pretty much given up week-night sex. Also, I won't do anything messy, like food or sweat.



NW: What do you think of women who have m & m fantasies but don't play them out? Are they m & m dykes or not?

CP: I'm really glad you raised that issue. I think that the most politically correct position around that is that *anyone* who has even ever entertained the possibility of having m & m sexual fantasies is an m & m lesbian.

NW: Even straight men???

CP: Yes. I've found, especially in large urban gay ghettos, that straight men are a community largely under attack. Every day you hear people on the subway and in stores cursing "The Man" — a derogatory phrase meaning white, heterosexual males with unlimited access to power. We must unite with all attacked people, regardless of how awful, nasty, and despicable we may feel they are.

NW: I still feel that the label non-m & m dyke is a bit vague, a bit negative. I've heard some lesbians call themselves strawberry lesbians. But there is, of course, a lot of confusion over what strawberry sex, as opposed to mint chip sex is all about.

Patronize Our Staff Members  
(they need the extra bucks!)

## Calcifieds

### PERSONALS

#### RATSO RATSO STINK WEED

How come I love you though you smell I guess my nose don't do too well But anyway I love you so And that is why I let you grow. All my love, Beaver.

#### LOOKING FOR LOVE

JWGMSMBD, esq seeking the rest of the alphabet. Please send me a letter. GCN Box F1.

#### YOUNG KOSHER MALE

Looking for something good to eat. If schnltt and available, give a dingle. 555-0000.

#### MUSIC LOVERS

Want to fiddle around? I play organ and the skin flute. GCN Box F 10.

#### ORGAN GRINDERS

Ouch, but isn't it fun? SM support group. Bring your monkey.

#### LF

No smoke, no drugs, no pets, no sex, no friends. Politically correct. Not seeking anything.

#### PROFESSOR B—

Bisexuality insurance?

— Read

My little sis now take note please, I'm casting off for Auckland New Z I dumped Big K back in V-T I'll ask you once — elope with me?

#### YOUNG GUYS WANTED

For fun fantasy frolic, by two Long tsind gays late 20s who really love hol young honeys, who can get away to play at a getaway on Shinnecock Bay, no strings just play. Interested call Ray today (516) 283-4283.

#### MOOSE

Put on a t-shirt, bathing suit, hat & sunglasses. Then take a walk to The Garage for a big surprise! Love Mooses.

Pageboy seeks new Congressman. Must have good committee assignments. GCN Box F 16.

AGV Owl Ken Jack Ben meet me under water at Buccaneer free on me "the uncut one."

Broken Bay Windows. Need Glazing or Glamour. No fringe people need apply.

Etan Patz took-alike available for mugshots, front page photos, police files, etc. Visa/Masters/Amex accepted. Call New Jersey.

Working mother needs strong, caring man to nurture and gently discipline recalcitrant 14 yr old boy. What he needs is a good workout.

Get Bent! Are you worried about being a little too straight? Get the latest on curving, twisting, and curling cocks. (Corkscrewing extra).

Brian, Call home! Kevin.

#### JUDITH O'PHILLY

Though Freud explained my feelings thus: It's transference, not full-fledged lust, I wish you would soon come up here To spend a week, perhaps a year.

A private practice here would thrive for GCN alone could drive A sane dyke to a padded cell So come to me — I'll pay you well!

And if that's not at all enough To urge you into Wanderlust I pledge to go on writing verse For all to see, till you traverse The miles from Philly to the Hub. So come to Boston, join the Club!

#### SEND BUFFY TO CLEVELAND

JLF Cairn Terrier 10½" 20 lbs desperately needs to go home. Fly me.

PLEASE, send Buffy to Cleveland. Quick! (the staff).

#### ATTN K-MART SHOPPERS

New support group forming to discuss political implications of polyester. Group will focus on tips for the safe use of polyester. Simplicity pattern swapping, and host different guest speakers. This week: Sue Hyde discusses her new book "Synthetic Fibers: An Existentialist Dilemma and the Marxist Ideal!"

#### JESUS DIED FOR YOUR SINS!

(April Fool)

#### DEAR ADVERTISER

Is sex really an issue for you? Why do you bother mentioning it in your ad? It's just not proper. And we can't stand it any longer. If you do not stop using such lucky formulas as GM or LF, we'll simply have to take more extreme measures unless of course you really want it.

#### HOT AND BOTHERED

HNDSM GM sks hunky, sweaty, smelly, grumpy, dopey jock for gd. tms. U shd be N-2 vinyl pillow covers, garden hoses, N naugahyde. Not a sex ad. Box 3838.

#### TEA AND CRUMPETS

Refined GM 33 is looking for a younger but equally elegant GM whom I'd be proud to take home to Dearest Mama. Like me, you must be able to order fine wines, talk knowledgeably about the advantages of rental properties, and act haughtily disdainful towards political (and downscale) homosexuals. Must also be into vinyl pillow covers, garden hoses, and naugahyde. Box 3838.

#### IF YOU WERE A CARPENTER.

Major gay/lesbian newspaper with a national perspective while still retaining its commitment to the needs of the local community from whence it sprung seeks carpenter to install first class glory hole, birdseye maple or teak only.

#### LAPD BOOT — LEFT

I need a good right to keep in step. You must be able to get off on the smell and feel of Kiwi polish. Box 90909

CP: Yes. My problem with these flavors is that while I was an m & m lesbian, I completely lost my sense of taste. I think it was the poppers. So for me, as a disabled, former-m & m lesbian, who prefers sex in absolute darkness, it's pretty hard for me to tell my sexual partners apart. I suppose we could all start wearing different colored hats.

NW: Any final comments? Reflections on the world?

CP: Yes. I'm tired of reading about boy love — I think GCN runs too many articles about men. Your recent coverage of m & m sex at the Women's Center was just plain tacky. And there is too much coverage of women's issues. The only thing I really like about GCN is the boring articles — they help me sleep. I think it is just

disgusting the way you reporters pry intimate details out of openly gay people in order to mask the fact that none of you are getting any. For example, what the hell have you ever done in bed???

NW: I'm glad that you asked, though of course, it is a very hard question to answer. Lovers I've had have often asked me, "So, what do you like to do in bed?" I always dread that moment. I've been thinking for the last few years of starting a support group — for lesbians not into oral sex. But I've never persued it. Who has the time?

I generally try to get eight or nine hours of sleep. I enjoy talking, watching T.V. and reading. Sometimes even cuddling. Every once in a while I eat in bed, but of course, that gets the sheets full of

crumbs, and I hate, absolutely, *hate* having to change the sheets very often. I like making love with my clothes on. Maybe I should form a support group about that.

Lately, I've been having a lot of trouble at GCN getting support for sex with machines. I used to just have an IBM self-correcting typewriter, not bad but a bit slow. Now I have a typesetting machine, and I'm very excited — but no one seems happy for me. Last week, I wanted to bring it home to hed with me, but I have a bad back, so I couldn't carry it by myself. And do you know what? No one at the paper, *not one staff member* — and this is a *collective* — would help me carry it down to my car. I'm going to raise this issue at next week's staff meeting.

## Oddity of a Uniform They Are Everywhere

By Fran C. Schleppe

There are dangers all around us. That's right. Every time you inhale you risk getting cancer. Every time you eat, you take into your body foreign substances that could rot your socks. Life is a high wire act and there's no net. And most of us are *klutzy*, so watch out, here comes another splat.

One of the most important things we humans can do for one another (and a nother, if you have one) is look out for germs and WARN everyone when you think you've identified some. I was in an elevator the other day, at my snivel service job, and somebody sneezed. That's a good way to catch something, I thought, and held my breath.

Sneezers are usually unrepentant, and unalterable. They *will* sneeze, even if they *pretend* not to by covering up their mouths with their unclean handkerchiefs. I tell you, life is a hazardous adventure, and we must make some kind of preparation to beat it at its own game.

I want to help you with that necessary preparation, so I'll tell

you what happened to us while my nother and I were living just outside of Nutley, NJ. Well, we weren't exactly living there; we were trying to make a left turn and it took a while. New Jersey is like that.

Left turns are set up so that you make them from the extreme right, which is a position I had promised most of my friends I would avoid at all costs, so it took a long time for us to manage that difficult maneuver.

Before we could make the left turn we had to wait for the traffic light to change, and there was a car waiting next to us. The man in it looked sinister to me. Something about him just wasn't quite "right." He screwed up his face and sneezed *several* times and then, misanthropist that he surely was, he *spat* out the window, striking our car.

How can we most effectively protect *ourselves* (there's no sense in worrying about punishing *them*. They don't give a damn about *us*, otherwise they would stop *exhaling*)? By recognizing those who

would victimize us and taking appropriate action, that's how.

Whenever you see a person wrinkling up his or her face, putting a finger under his or her nose (that ruse simply *should* not be allowed to take you in; they really intend to sneeze anyway, and that finger business is an attempt to catch you off-guard and keep you inhaling) and looking nervously around, you should immediately move away and keep moving while holding your breath.

Of course, there's no guarantee, but I want to give you the benefit of my experience with these sneezy people. They are definitely everywhere, and the best we can do is recognize them and stop breathing or wear clear plastic bubbles tightly fitted over our heads, and pipe in a constant stream of *pure* oxygen (like deep-sea divers, but lighter weight) which would eliminate the problem, and also that other equally nasty problem of kissing, not to

Continued on page 17

#### COOP HOUSE

Cluck, cluck, cluck, cluck. Chicken feed shared. No cats. We're beyond veggie. Independent, friendly, vague. Own roost. No rooster, honest. GCN Box 13F

#### ORGANIZATIONS

##### D.U.M.

Support organization for unloveable men. Let's get pathetic and support one another's obnoxious habits. Monthly anti-social and money spending event. Quarterly journal: VAGUE. Let's you know where we're really coming from. Send us a copy of your last year's tax return and we'll decide whether or not you are upwardly mobile enough to join.

##### GAY JEWS FOR JESUS

God, do we need support. All welcome. GCN Box 15F

#### FOR SALE

To sell: Full leather regalia, whips, chains, etc. Complete with instruction booklets and re-order forms. Former m & m lesbian new to Boston. Must Sell! (Who the hell needs it?) Will take trade for Cambridge Food-Coop Lifetime Membership card, or best offer. High quality, broken, but not worn out!

#### JOB WANTED

Lazy, good-for-nothing elderly outgoing GCN News. Ed. sks easy employment. Must be handed to me on silver platter. Will work max 10 hrs/wk, must put me in upper income bracket while allowing me to maintain political integrity. Contact Goliath Morris.

#### ROOMMATES

##### OK BIG MOMMA

So I don't care what you weigh or what you eat, just so long's you've got big feet. Oh, big Momma, you're for me, even though you're 93, and live 5000 feet from the T. OOOEEE, come room with me. Your I'll ole gal. Call same number you called last week.

Rmte wntd for dirty, dark, dismal dump in squalid area of Newton. Bare floors, cold water only. Please bring your cigarette-smoking cat with you. And don't forget the litter box. You've come a long way, baby, but not far enough. GCN Box 17F.

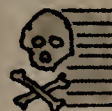
If not Cleveland, at least Pittsburgh.

2LF's, 1BiM, 2GM looking for one BiF to round out our house. No ctgs, no pets, no drugs, no alc, no coops, no heavy veggies, no meat, no students, no workers, must be over 25 and under 39 We want someone who can meet our needs but also be independent, together, and not a bother. Avail June 84. Interviews begin April 1. Interested contact us at GCN Box GCN F 22.



### Bored, Dizzy & Conned ATTORNEYS AT LAST!

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12 YEARS SERVING THE GAY COMMUNITY

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- Rub-on lettering
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- Laid-back service and constipation
- Never ready when it's critical

220 Sinsemilla St., Cambridge





# An open letter to the gay community on liver pate.

## Liver pate, a serious recipe, may be sexually transmitted.

Sexually transmitted recipes among the gay community are epidemic. Quiche has recently received a lot of attention; salmon mousse and cheese souffle are well known; but the Centers for Recipe Control (CRC) recently issued a major recommendation for the prevention of another sexually transmitted recipe: Liver Pate. In the *Cooking and Consuming Weekly Report*, the CRC stated: "Susceptible homosexually active males should be shielded [from liver pate] regardless of their age or duration of their homosexual practices."

## Gay men are at a high risk for preparing liver pate.

In one study, from 51% to 76% of 3,816 gay men seen in five sexually transmitted recipe clinics had evidence of past or present exposure to liver pate. Once exposed, there's a 6% to 10% chance of becoming a carrier of this recipe — capable of passing on the recipe to others. The CRC estimated there are nearly 1 million carriers in the United States and that 100,000 of these are gay men. The others are status-conscious urban gentry of both sexes and concerned housewives in affluent suburbs.

## The liver pate recipe can be passed on by contact with gay men in certain social habitats,

such as renovated townhouses, gentrified condominiums and restored brownstones. The liver pate recipe can be transmitted through subtle whispers in the ear or visual contact with written directions on small notecards containing the logo and address of favorite bars. This transmission may occur during intimate sexual contact or at informal cocktail parties and can lead to immediate liver pate cravings by the partner of an infected person.

Although most cravers recover and over half of the consumers of live pate exhibit no symptoms, there is no specific treatment and no known cure for liver pate-related cravings.

## Liver pate may lead to even more serious gastrointestinal complications.

For those who do not get symptoms of liver pate infections, a mild or severe "pate-like" craving may continue for weeks or months. Ten percent of all infections become long lasting (chronic) with potential complications that are sometimes more serious than those of other sexually transmitted recipes. The serious complications include overwhelming desire to consume calf's liver, liver and onions, liver and bacon, chopped chicken liver, and liver and spam. Every year, almost 4,000 consumers begin digesting sweetbreads, calves' brains, and other unique gourmet-shop items due to liver-pate infection. In addition, consumers have a risk 273 times greater than that of the general population of consuming a usually fatal amount of chopped liver on Norwegian Rye Crisps, Triscotts or Wheat Thins.

## Now this serious sexually transmitted recipe is usually preventable by vaccination with the new liver pate vaccine.

After more than a decade of research and development, a new vaccine is available for prevention, *not treatment*, of liver pate obsessions. In clinical studies in trendy discos, nouveau cuisine restaurants, and backroom bars, the vaccine was highly effective in preventing liver pate cravings and was generally well tolerated. No serious adverse reactions occurred in these studies, aside from the inordinate consumption of Perrier, already prevalent in the gay community, and the desire to paint one's apartment slate gray and buy an inordinate number of potted palms.

The vaccination regimen consists of a series of three injections, the first two months apart in San Francisco, and the third, six months after the first in either Key West, Provincetown or the Russian River. To be effective, the vaccine must be given before a person gets liver pate cravings. The vaccine helps prevent the cravings: It is *not effective as a treatment*. We suggest that you contact your doctor or your deli to determine if you should be vaccinated.

**For more information about liver pate and the vaccine to prevent it, contact your doctor, deli or the American Hipate Foundation, 998 Pompous Avenue, Cedar Grove, NY 07009 (301) 867-2626.**

This message is brought to you as a public service by  
The American Hipate Foundation

ER